

City pleads for sell-off delay as share prices continue plunge

Lawson decision day on BP

- The Chancellor is expected to decide today whether to withdraw the British Petroleum issue after another day of sinking share prices on the London market
- President Reagan's first budget "council of war" with Congress ended with a commitment to reach a political compromise on spending priorities
- An American businessman who lost a fortune in the Wall Street crash shot two people in his broker's office before killing himself
- Labour leaders reacted angrily to Mr Nigel Lawson's refusal to make a statement in the Commons on the stock market crisis

By Kenneth Fleet

After another day of sinking share prices the London market is looking to the Government for emergency assistance.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer is expected to say today whether he is prepared to withdraw the £7.2 billion British Petroleum issue which now hangs like an albatross around the City's neck.

The feeling that Mr Nigel Lawson would yield to pressures from within the Cabinet and from financial institutions and bankers in London and New York was strong enough yesterday to raise both spirits and prices from the new depths to which they had fallen.

The FT-SE 100 share index, which earlier had plummeted by 157 points, had recovered to 1684.1 by the close, a fall of 111.

The FT 30 share index followed a similar course, closing 89 points lower at 1307.1.

The 100 share index has fallen by 31 per cent and the

market at 266p no private investor could sensibly contemplate paying the offer price of 330p.

But if the sale is stopped there might be a long term, adverse effect on the Government's finances which stand to benefit from the proceeds of the issue, as well as some damage to the credibility of the Chancellor.

Mr Lawson, who has dismissed the market collapse as "rather absurd", feels strongly that underwriters are paid handsomely to take the kind of risks they are now complaining about.

NM Rothschild, the merchant bank chiefly concerned with the issue, and the brokers Hoare Govett and Wood Mackenzie, were at the Treasury yesterday pleading for postponement, partly on the grounds of the damage a flop on this scale might do to international stock markets.

On behalf of the underwriters they also pointed out that according to the terms of the share offer, "termination" was possible "in the event of a material change in relevant circumstances".

They argued that the collapse in international stock markets was "a material change". Moreover, if the offer is withdrawn, the sale of BP shares internationally would also be dropped.

Much of the pressure on the Treasury to retreat comes from the United States, where four leading investment banks, Goldman Sachs, Morgan Stanley, Salomon Brothers and Shearson Lehman have taken 480 million BP shares at the 330p offer price, with a view to marketing them among US investors. At current prices in a market shot to pieces they stand to lose around £225 million.

London yesterday found itself between the upper millstone of a disastrous reopening of the Hong Kong market, which saw the Hang Seng index lose a third of its value, and the nether millstone of a weak opening on Wall Street. The Tokyo market's fall was a relatively restrained 7 per cent.

In New York the Dow Jones Industrial Average was down 157 points to 1793.93. The market had little positive to feed on. The meeting of President Reagan with Congressional leaders to discuss the huge Federal Budget deficit, one of the basic reasons why Wall Street has crumbled, was not set seriously under way until today. Yesterday's session was apparently only for pictures for the history books.

The US dollar took another coming in the foreign exchange markets of the world, dropping to three German marks. The pound gained disproportionately, touching \$1.70 before the Bank of England

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NEWS SUMMARY

Papers on view in ANC case

Lawyers representing three men released last week after charges against them of conspiring to kidnap members of the African National Congress were dropped, were given permission by a High Court judge yesterday to inspect documents seized by anti-terrorist squad officers.

The lawyers say that police have about 70,000 documents in their possession which, if leaked, would cause the British government embarrassment. They say they have received only 700 of these documents.

In a five-minute private hearing, Mr Justice Ian Kennedy ordered, by consent, that the police allow lawyers to inspect all the documents.

Port lots sold off

The new owner of the Cornish port of Charlestown near St Austell has begun to sell off property on the estate, bought last month for £2.5 million.

However, Mr Barry Williamson, the estate manager, promised a bright future for the community yesterday, with investment in the village's hotel, public house and other occupied property, and an effort to win more business.

Charlestown was bought by Mr David Bulstrode, the London property magnate.

Whip is fined

Lord Hesketh, the Government's deputy chief whip in the House of Lords, was fined £850 yesterday after an employee contracted arsenic poisoning.

Lord Hesketh admitted at Northampton Magistrates' Court failing to discharge his duty as an employer in ensuring the health of Mr Roger Culley, aged 28, who worked at a timber treatment plant on Lord Hesketh's estate near Towcester, Northamptonshire. Mr Culley had been allowed to work without using protective clothing.

Musical witchcraft

The Royal Shakespeare Company's musical based on the Stephen King novel *Carrie*, a story of witchcraft and supernatural powers, will have a half British and half American cast, it was announced last night, after a deal between actors' unions in Britain and the United States.

The production will open at Stratford-upon-Avon in February and transfer to Broadway after just four weeks. Usually only the stars of British shows appear in the Broadway productions, working with American casts.

The RSC plans to spend £350,000 on the production but has been guaranteed £550,000 from the Stratford season by its commercial partners and a share in profits and royalties for the life of the show.

Soldiers accused

Four soldiers accused of assaulting a recruit during initiation rites appeared before a court martial in West Germany yesterday.

Private Philip Smith, Private David Gardner, and Private William Reilly, all aged 19, and Private Barry Ferguson, aged 20, of the 1st Battalion the King's Own Scottish Borderers, are alleged to have committed the offences against Private James Guthrie, aged 19.

Yesterday's proceedings were taken up with legal submissions. The case continues today.

£500,000 frozen

A Colombian woman has been accused of "laundering" £500,000 in assets by Scotland Yard using new powers under the Drug Trafficking Assets Act to act for foreign police.

Claudia Maria Goldsworthy, aged 38, of Stephendale Road, Fulham, south-west London, was given bail in the first case of its kind.

Scotland Yard was asked to investigate by the FBI in Florida after the woman's former husband was charged with possessing cocaine.

Fire report for DPP

The parents of four children who died in a fire could be prosecuted for negligence, the police said yesterday.

A report is to be sent to the Crown Prosecution Service to decide whether charges should be brought against one or both of the parents.

Somerset and Avon detectives interviewed Mr Philip Shadbolt, a scaffolder, and his wife, Heather, yesterday.

Their children, Holly, aged three, and Billy Shadbolt, aged two, Samantha Gilpin, aged seven, and Stephen Sellers, aged 10, died in their first-floor bedrooms when fire swept through their home at Church Street, Highbridge, Somerset, on Friday night.

Opposition unites on school reforms

By John Clare, Education Correspondent

A conference of all the parties in education in England and Wales yesterday voiced united opposition to most of the Government's proposed education reforms.

The first meeting of the all-party Standing Conference on Education, which includes the 104 local education authorities, the churches, all nine teachers' and lecturers' unions, and the principal organizations representing parents and governors, was held in Birmingham.

They criticized the Government's proposals in principle and detail. Sir Peter Newsam, secretary of the Association of County Councils, said the Bill to be published next month would give the Secretary of State for Education 33 specific new powers.

"I am worried about the constitutional implications," he said. "We are creating the machinery that will enable a Secretary of State with a narrow view of the role of education in a democratic society to impose it on others."

Mr Fred Riddell, chairman of the association's education committee and one of the few Conservatives to speak, contrasted the haste with which the proposals were being pushed through with the three years of consultation that had preceded the Education Act, 1944.

Mrs Ada Fordham, the chairman of the Confederation for Advancement of State Education, said all that parents wanted was that their neighbourhood school should be a good one.

Ridley's poll tax compromise runs into trouble

By Philip Webster
Chief Political Correspondent

The Treasury lined up with Conservative critics of the community charge, or poll tax yesterday to signal opposition to a compromise plan which would allow local authorities to decide when to bring the charge in.

There were signs that the compromise would be enough to satisfy at least some of the Tory MPs who have been

arguing that the charge should be introduced in one instalment rather than phased in.

But Conservative MPs and ministers in London and the Home Counties, who have been calling for a phase-in period, and those who are opposed to the new charge in principle voiced alarm over the compromise.

A Cabinet committee is due to discuss the proposal today. It has been drawn up by Mr Nicholas Ridley, Secretary of

State for the Environment.

However, Mr Ridley will face strong resistance from Mr Nigel Lawson, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, to his "halfway house" plan.

The Treasury has fought throughout for the longest phase-in period possible. It believes that giving local authorities discretion will open the way for Labour councils to make sure the charge is introduced at the worst possible time.

Mr Robin Squire, Conservative MP for Horsham and one of the chief opponents of the poll tax, said the Government was in danger of introducing the worst of both worlds.

He said local authorities were rightly concerned about the cost of running the two systems side by side.

Mr Jerry Hayes, Conservative MP for Harlow, said the Government would be committing a grave political

miscalculation if it allowed local council discretion.

He said: "Left-wing councils would use this opportunity to cause the maximum disruption and hardship as near to the next general election as possible."

Mr John Heddle, MP, chairman of the Conservative backbench environment committee, which Mr Ridley will be addressing on Thursday, said last night that to leave the option open to local authorities would encourage Labour-controlled authorities to introduce the community charge at the least politically advantageous time for the Government. It would be the worst of all worlds.

Mr Squire and the other leading Tory opponents, Sir George Young, MP for Ealing Acton, are planning to table amendments when the legislation is introduced which would exempt supplementary benefit claimants from paying

Tax fails to deter, page 5

Europe faces Americans over Airbus 'subsidies'

By Harvey Elliott, Air Correspondent

A meeting in London today could be the final attempt to resolve the bitter dispute between Europe and the United States over government subsidies allegedly paid to Airbus Industrie.

The four trade ministers of the European nations involved in building Airbus jets will face their accusers from the United States.

The Americans are threatening retaliatory action over what they claim is unfair government support for the European aircraft by imposing tariffs or import taxes on sales of the aircraft to US airlines.

Mr Kenneth Clarke, Minister for Trade and Industry, will find himself in the embarrassing position of supporting the Europeans' case formally while privately pressing them to change the method of financing to ensure adequate profits from sales.

Britain maintains that its hands are clean in its support of Airbus but is frustrated at the way in which the French and German governments are prepared to wipe off former debts and not insist that the consortium makes a profit or produces normal commercial accounts.

British Aerospace, which has a 25 per cent stake in the consortium, has been pressing for the consortium to be restructured as a commercial enterprise to overcome objections from the Americans and to ensure their future involvement in the projects.

The Americans have complained about Europe as a whole, maintaining, for example, that each Airbus A320 jet is being sold at a \$16 million loss with no questions asked about price or accumulated deficits.

The British Government denies that it has acted in defiance of international agreements and say that its

support for Airbus has been in the form of wholly repayable loans. Those would have to be given back to the Treasury whether or not the consortium made a profit.

It also wants to see a healthy profit from its investment of around £700 million and is concerned both at the lack of detailed financial information coming out of the Airbus headquarters at Toulouse.

France effectively "wipes off" the Airbus debts each year and the German government gives a rolling credit guarantee. Neither of them can understand what the British are worried about.

British Aerospace, which is paid by the consortium for the work it carries out, are already making large losses in its civil aircraft division, half of which it puts down to Airbus.

It has given a warning that it would be prepared to veto any deal to sell the jets to airlines at a price which was so low that they could not be certain of a profit.

To do so openly could damage the prospects of the consortium into which it is now locked. It is, therefore, forced to join the battle on the side of the European consortium although it is worried that if present arrangements continue, it could find its own losses rocketing.

At the same time, British Aerospace has large contracts pending in the United States and any action taken by the Americans against Europe in general would hit the company hard. Already it has had to pull out of one deal to supply parts for a new Boeing aircraft because to do so would not be "compatible" with its Airbus work.

The Americans are prepared to take advantage of the growing split in the European ranks and the talks are likely to be both hard and heated.

Harrier search plea

Experts investigating the flight of the pilotless Harrier jet which plunged into the sea last week, want to call in the Royal Navy's most sophisticated research ship to bring it to the surface (Our Air Correspondent writes).

They have told British Aerospace and the Ministry of Defence that if the accident, one of the most baffling in aviation history, is ever to be explained the aircraft will have to be raised.

It lies in water 1,000 metres deep, 800 miles off Land's End.

Pathologists are examining the body of Mr Taylor Scott, a British Aerospace test pilot, which was found in a field in Wiltshire, in the hope of discovering how he died. They say, however, that this may not answer the hundreds of questions raised. The investigation has concluded that the Harrier, which dropped into the sea when it ran out of fuel, still contains the ejector seat into which Mr Scott was strapped.

He had taken off from Dunsfold, Surrey, for a routine test flight in the jet before it was handed over to the RAF.

It is hoped that the Royal Navy ship HMS Challenger, which has a diving bell on board, and which is in the area, may be able to reach the aircraft. However the exercise would be massively expensive and may even then not prove conclusive.

However naval experts were last night doubtful whether the ship could delve deep enough to reach the Harrier, and the inquiry team may have to seek help from the Americans, who have the means to go deeper.

So far every theory on what could have led an experienced test pilot to leave his aircraft has foundered.

It has been suggested that the aircraft's canopy came off at about 30,000ft, either because an object had struck it, or because the bolts failed.

Victims of storm soldier on



Mrs Nadine Saunders yesterday with her wrecked car and cottage and the tree that knocked out her chimney during the storm nearly two weeks ago (Photograph: Bill Warhurst).

By Howard Foster

Eleven days have passed since the hurricane-force winds of "The Big Blow" flattened much of south-east England.

Yesterday the main chimney of Coates Castle still hung dangerously suspended a few yards above the heads of its owners, in spite of their every effort to have it removed to safety.

With the coolness that has been the keynote of the tribulations of the storm, Mrs Jacqueline Mitchell-Heggs has continued to live as normally as possible in the early Victorian castle near Petworth, West Sussex, wholly mindful of the 300lb or so of masonry that lies by her son's bed among a shower of fallen plaster.

Above it, lodged on a roof beam, is another piece of chimney that is even bigger and more precariously balanced. Another strong wind and, the experts tell her, it could drop right through the ground floor taking everything with it.

That has been the only useful piece of information Mrs Mitchell-Heggs has gleaned from the numerous builders she has tried to

persuade to remove the offending chimney.

"After the first few had laughed in my face when I telephoned them and they told me it will literally be weeks before they could help, I rather gave up", she said yesterday at her home, where there was neither electricity nor heating or telephone.

The absence of a telephone and the fact that it was three days before trees were cleared from her drive and she could leave her home has meant that Mrs Mitchell-Heggs is still waiting to talk to her insurance company.

"I suppose I should be grateful to be alive. The power went off on the night of the storm at 2am. Next, there was a tremendous crash and the chimney fell in. Had one piece not bounced off the bed above me in my son's room it would have crashed straight through on to me. As it was I was just cut and bruised by the plaster."

A few hundred yards away, Mr James Cooper-Mitchell, aged 77, was enjoying his second day of freedom after nine days from the track to his

cottage at Coates, near Petworth.

Ten days without electricity, he relied on an open fire to cook for his bed-ridden wife Audrey, who is 84. Mr Cooper-Mitchell kept her warm with constant hot water bottles and relied on neighbours to walk miles across fields to bring him food and drink.

A few miles away, in a remote lodge house, Mrs Nadine Saunders was surveying the damage to her home and her beloved MG sports car.

As she sat down stairs nervously reading during the night of the storm, a tree fell onto her house at about 4.30am and knocked the chimney off. This made holes in the roof before landing on the bonnet of the car as well as denting her boyfriend's BMW.

"There is up to £1,000 worth of damage to the bonnet, wing and engine," Mrs Saunders, who does not own her cottage, said.

Last night the Southern Electricity Board said that there were only about a thousand households in its central southern supply area still without electricity.

27,000 still without power

By David Young, Energy Correspondent

An estimated 23,000 consumers in the Tunbridge Wells area of Kent and Crawley area of West Sussex are still without power this morning, 11 days after the storms which brought havoc to south-east England.

The areas have been badly hit by the number of trees which fell across overhead power lines. One of the main underground lines connecting local lines to the national grid was ruptured by the roots of a nearby tree as it fell.

All power lines in the

eastern region have been reconnected and maintenance staff are now repairing lines in woodland areas bordering Kent and West Sussex.

More than 8,000 kilometres of new overhead cable and 4,000 poles have been installed throughout the South-east.

In the adjoining southern region, covering Hampshire, Dorset, Berkshire, parts of Oxfordshire and the Isle of Wight, there are still 4,500 consumers without power.

The Army has been enlisted to provide heavy lifting equipment to remove fallen trees. Cable manufacturers worked throughout the weekend to ensure that equipment was made available.

A spokesman for the Electricity Council said: "The worst affected area was the South-eastern region, but even there, where half a million customers were affected, we are now down to only 30,000 without power. Another 7,000 are being connected each day."

Crime prevention

Anti-burglar kit for homes cuts insurance costs

By Christopher Warrman
Property Correspondent

Simple security measures costing only a few pounds can reduce home burglaries by up to 40 per cent, according to the Homebuilding firm Bellway Homes, which is one of the leaders in the provision of anti-theft devices in their new houses.

It builds an anti-burglar kit into all its new houses, bungalows and flats and in addition provides an integrated electronic alarm system into houses costing £35,000 or more (£50,000 in the London area).

An immediate result of the scheme has been discount rates from insurance companies, which are increasingly concerned about the level of household burglaries and the cost of claims.

One company, Municipal

General, launched a 25 per cent no claims discount scheme in June in an attempt to cut the cost of claims by rewarding householders who take precautions.

A policy to cover £10,000-worth of household contents would normally cost £43 in country areas. With the no claims discount this would be reduced to £32.25. In London the premium of £128 would be reduced to £96.

The Association of British Insurers says the average household claim is about £600, double the 1980 level. In the first six months of 1987, insurance companies paid out £155 million on household claims, an increase of 8.5 per cent on the same period of 1986. In 1986 the total for household claims was £249.9 million, a 13.9 per cent increase over 1985.

When Bellway announced

the installation of its security packages in new homes the Sun Alliance insurance group responded by offering a 15 per cent discount of its standard rates for the new houses.

Generally the firm offers a 10 per cent discount for security measures, with an extra dis-

count for membership of a neighbourhood watch scheme.

It is one of several insurance companies offering a discount. Avon offers a 5 per cent discount for good quality door and window locks, and 10 per cent for an alarm system. Commercial Union offers 10

per cent discount for an approved alarm installation, and Norwich Union 5 per cent for locks, 10 per cent for approved alarms, and a further 2.5 per cent for neighbourhood watch scheme membership. Legal and General launched their own scheme last year, offering discounts of up to 20 per cent.

Roadshow gains mixed reviews

The Government's new enthusiasm for crime prevention received both plaudits and brickbats yesterday (Michael McCarthy writes).

Mr Laurie Timms, chief executive of Wycombe District Council in Buckinghamshire, was like a man born again after hearing that the Home Office plans to put the subject top of the public awareness list with a massive advertising campaign and the setting up of a national crime

prevention organization.

"I have suddenly woken up to it," he said at the London session of *The Crime Prevention Roadshow*, a touring exhibition-conference for local authority leaders and other public policy makers.

After hearing a number of speakers, including Mr John Patten, Minister of State at the Home Office, emphasize that results could be achieved if crime prevention were taken seriously, Mr Timms said: I

must confess I had always given it a low priority."

A more jaundiced view of the Government's intentions came from Mr Ilyd Harrington, the veteran Labour politician and former chairman of the Greater London Council. He said that the proposals were "all right as far as they go but they don't go far enough. This campaign is addressed to suburbia. It will not deal with the real problems and fears of people in inner-city estates."

Butcher in shooting is freed

By Michael Dynes

A butcher was freed yesterday after he admitted shooting a teenager in the arm with a double-barrel shotgun after a series of attacks on his shop.

Mr John Quentin Smith, aged 39, of Wharfedale Road, Ilkeston, Derbyshire, was given a three-year conditional discharge after pleading guilty to maliciously wounding Matthew Taylor, aged 18, of Queen's Avenue, Ilkeston. He faced a maximum penalty of five years in prison.

He said afterwards: "It would have been a travesty of justice if I had been sent down. I would not have been what the people of this country want. They are sick and tired of jobs committing this mindless vandalism."

Derby Crown Court was told that the shooting took place last May outside Mr Smith's shop in Ilkeston, after three youths threw a brick through the window of a neighbouring video shop.

Mr Smith, who had learned of the planned attack, lay in wait for the youths. When they struck, he ran outside and shot one of them in the arm at a distance of 12 yards.

Mr Smith later told police he thought he had fired above the heads of the vandals, and had not intended to cause injury.

Mr Dudley Bennett, for the defence, said that repeated acts of vandalism against Mr Smith's shop had caused him considerable financial and emotional strain. He had been forced to leave the area because he could no longer get insurance cover for his business.

Grindlays Bank p.l.c. Interest Rates

Grindlays Bank p.l.c. announces that its base rate for lending will change from 10% to 9½% with effect from 23rd October 1987

Grindlays Bank p.l.c.

A member of the ABN Group of Companies
Head Office: Grindlays Bank plc,
Minerva House, Montague Close, London SE1 9DH.

Telecom admits fall in standards after flood of complaints

By Tony Dawe

British Telecom was forced yesterday to admit that its services had deteriorated this year as a highly critical report by a Government watchdog organization showed the number of complaints had risen by 130 per cent in 12 months.

A quarter of people questioned believed the company's service had worsened since privatization, according to the Office of Telecommunications (OfTel).

Telecom produced its own statistics which showed that in March, 32 million local calls and 22 million trunk calls failed to reach their destination. Of 45 million calls made to directory enquiries, 10 million failed to get a response within a quarter of a minute and another 8 million failed to get through at all.

The Telecom report also showed that in March, 850,000 customers failed to receive the telephone equipment they had ordered within one working week and another 350,000 failed to get their faults repaired within two working days.

Mr Graeme Odgers, the company's newly-appointed group managing director, told a press conference after publication of the report: "Our quality of service was not adequate but we have made great strides. This company is facing a challenging set

of problems and opportunities but we are up to this."

The company again blamed the engineers' strike in January for its problems and produced statistics for last month which showed an improvement in most services.

But local calls continued to fall at the same rate as in March and the response of the enquiry service has worsened.

Telecom admitted that pressure from the media and OfTel had persuaded it to publish the "quality of service" report, which had previously been regarded as confidential.

In its report OfTel said that the number of complaints it received this summer, 3,300 a month, was up by 130 per cent on the summer of 1986.

Half the complaints concerned telephone accounts and charges and most were made before *The Times* reported last month that Telecom was overcharging its customers by millions of pounds because of faulty connections and equipment.

Professor Bryan Chisberg, director general of OfTel, said yesterday: "BT's figures demonstrate clearly that there was an objective source for the widespread public disquiet with BT's performance which developed during 1987."

He added that the September figures "demonstrated significant progress towards re-establishing previous levels of performance, though in some areas there is still some way to go."

The professor stunned consumer organizations and politicians by announcing that because Telecom was now publishing its own figures, OfTel would stop its surveys. "It would not be sensible for OfTel to attempt to replicate every year measures which can easily be obtained within the BT network," he said.

"I shall keep under review the possible need to ask BT to obtain an independent audit report on its statistics."

Mr Bryan Gould, Labour's trade and industry spokesman, said last night: "The privatization dream is slowly becoming a nightmare. He claimed that the realization that private monopolies put profits before service is making the public reject privatization of the water and electricity industries."

Engineers working for British Telecom may get their profit-sharing bonuses back because of their work to reconnect the thousands of telephone lines damaged in the recent storms.

The bonuses were stopped after the engineers' strike in January.

The catalogue of failures

The Telecom and OfTel reports covered four areas of service. Connections: Telecom said that last month 2.2 per cent of local calls (about 32 million) and 4.3 per cent of trunk calls (about 17 million) failed to get through. OfTel produced similar figures but added that millions more calls were either cut off before they were finished or had to be discontinued because of noise on the lines. Telecom said that it could not give any target for improving connections.

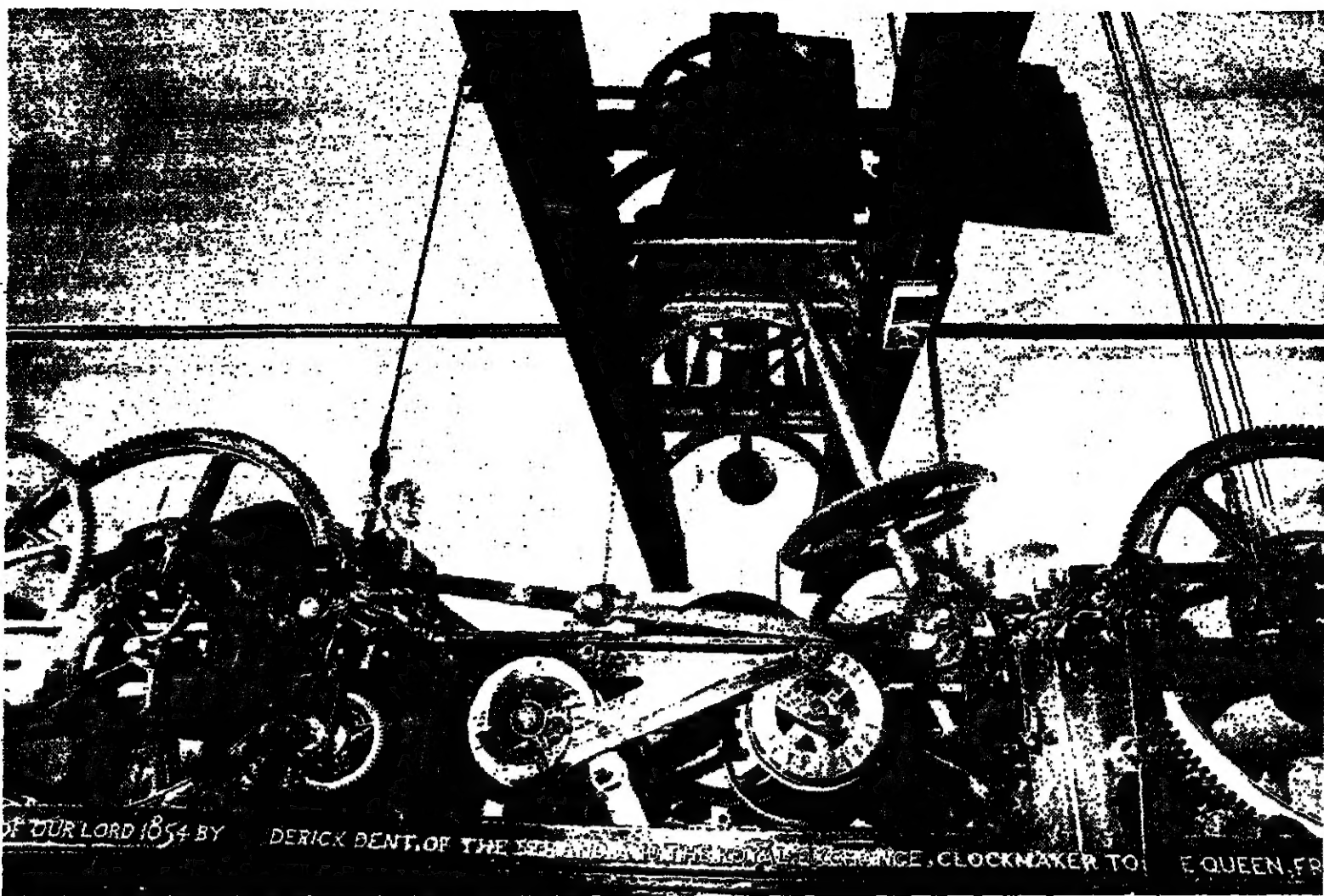
Directory enquiries: Telecom said that last month a quarter of calls to the service (about 11 million) failed to get a response within 15 seconds. OfTel provided additional figures showing that 18 per cent of calls failed to get any

response, with callers hearing either the engaged tone or nothing. Mr Odgers said yesterday that calls to the service were increasing "at an enormous rate" but the company was determined to meet the demand and intended to improve the service by April. Faults: Telecom reported that last month 13.5 per cent of faults (about 175,000) remained unreported after two working days. OfTel produced sharply contrasting figures for the year, showing that 62 per cent of faults were still unreported after two days and that 18 per cent took longer than four days to repair. Telecom has set itself the target of repairing all faults within two days during the current financial year.

	1986/87	March 87	Sept 87
Faults unreported after 2 working days	12.9	26.1	13.5
Failure to install domestic phone within 2 working days	40.6	82	67.5
Failure rate of calls: Local	1.7	2.2	2.2
Trunk	4.1	5.4	4.3
Directory enquiries: failure to answer in 15 sec	25	23	24.6

New equipment: Telecom produced figures showing that in March only a quarter of its customers received new telephones and other equipment within a week of placing their orders. Telecom plans to introduce an appointment system for installing new equipment and to keep all appointments it makes by March 1989.

Metal fatigue silences Big Ben's sombre knell



The clock mechanism yesterday, minus the fly fan for hour chimes, removed because of a suspect bracket. The fly fan's sails, similar to the quarter-hour ones seen at the top of the picture, would usually be above where Mr Brian Sewell, parliamentary works officer, is standing (Photograph: John Rogers).

By Alan Hamilton

The brittle bones of old age have temporarily silenced the baritone boog of Big Ben.

Cracks were found, during a routine inspection at the weekend, in a metal bracket forming part of the governor mechanism which controls the striking of the hours. With memories of a day in 1976 in mind, when a metal component flew off with the noise of a bomb and caused extensive damage to the works, the clock keepers removed the suspect part for replacement.

"It looks like metal fatigue," Mr Brian Sewell, the Property Services Agency's parliamentary works officer at the Palace of Westminster said. "We hope to have it replaced and working by the weekend." The bell's next important state duty is to toll the

sombre knell of eleven on Remembrance Sunday.

In the meantime, its sorrowful E natural is missing from BBC Radio 4 and from the World Service, replaced by a series of feeble and nameless pips.

The offending object is the fly fan, two metal sails almost a metre square on a tall spindle, which rotate at great speed and with rancorous noise inside the clock room to regulate the pace of the striking hours. The cracks were found in a bracket securing one of the sails; it was feared that, if it broke, the sail would plough through the five tons of clock mechanism.

The quarter-hour chimes, supposedly based on a phrase in *I Know That My Redeemer Liveth* from Handel's *Messiah*, are governed by a similar but separate fly fan.

Portfolio Gold

A forty-fifth wedding anniversary celebration for a retired professor and his wife is being planned on the strength of a share in a £4,000 prize in the Portfolio Gold competition.

Mrs Dina Ullendorff, of Bladon Close, Oxford, a *Times* reader for 50 years, said her win would go towards a celebration in Scotland next spring with her husband Edward, a retired professor of Semitic languages at London University.

She shares the prize with Mr Kim McCallum, aged 28, an insurance broker, of Kingswood Road, Brixton, south-west London.

Readers wishing to play Portfolio Gold can obtain a card by sending a stamped addressed envelope to:

Portfolio Gold,
The Times,
Blackburn
BB1 6AJ.

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Libel case over lost naval log

A former naval officer is suing a *Mail on Sunday* reporter and the newspaper's publishers, Associated Newspapers, for libel, alleging that a report falsely linked him with a missing naval log.

Mr Narendra Sethia served as a lieutenant on the nuclear submarine HMS Conqueror when it sank the Argentinian warship General Belgrano during the Falklands conflict in 1982, the High Court in London was told yesterday.

In February 1985, a *Mail on Sunday* article by Mr Chester Stern, the crime correspondent, said that HMS Conqueror's log, which had disappeared, had been recovered from a former naval officer in the West Indies.

Mr Sethia had left the Royal Navy in 1982.

Mr Stern and Associated Newspapers deny the article was defamatory or that it referred to Mr Sethia.

The hearing continues today.

Judge wants to shift proof on child abuse

By Andrew Morgan

A judge at Bristol Crown Court yesterday called for a change in the onus of proof law in child abuse cases after he was obliged to free a young couple accused of cruelty towards their child aged 10 months.

Judge Fallon, QC, said he would enter formal not-guilty verdicts "with the greatest reluctance", after hearing that the police could not prove which of the parents carried out the attack.

He called on Parliament to amend the law so that accused parents would have to prove they had not attacked their children if there was evidence of an assault. It would mean taking the burden of proof away from the prosecution and presenting it instead to the defendants.

Mr Malcolm Cotterell, for the prosecution, offered no evidence against a man aged 24 and his wife, aged 22, from Bath, whose child showed signs of strangulation. They were charged with wilfully neglecting and assaulting her

in a manner likely to cause unnecessary suffering.

"The prosecution has no doubt that whenever she suffered, it was at the hand of the defendants, and that she had had previous sufferings at their hands", he said.

"We cannot prove which of the defendants laid his or her hands about the child's neck. I take the decision to offer no evidence with the greatest regret, because it does leave the child open to further abuse. Both parents say they did not do it and that the other was incapable of doing it."

Judge Fallon said: "This is a matter of concern to me as the law stands. On the evidence, one or the other seems to have caused these injuries."

Mr Cotterell told him that the child had been placed in foster care but Judge Fallon said he could not compel the social services to keep the child in such care.

Afterwards, the couple said they were hoping for the return of their child.

Battle for lord of the manor

By Sarah Jane Checkland, Art Market Correspondent

The stock market may be tumbling but the prices for lordships are soaring, judging by the sale of manorial titles at Painter's Hall, central London, yesterday.

The titles, which sold for £1,000 nine years ago when Strutt and Parker, the estate agents, first started trading in them, are now selling for an average of £9,000.

Auctions of lordships usually entail the selling of nominal prestige. For a price, anyone can call themselves lord of the manor, embellishing personal stationery and enhancing the credibility of a passport with the title.

Strutt and Parker has joined forces with a company called Manorial Research to provide full details on what each title entails.

The most gratified buyer yesterday was a gentleman from Miami who spent a total

SALEROOM

of £34,000 on three titles, the lordships of Walcot, Norfolk, for £7,750, Blewbury, Berkshire, for £7,250 and Liston, Essex, for £20,000.

The relatively high premium paid for the last title is thought to be due to its incumbent's additional right to carry the wafers at the next Coronation.

There were fewer smiles when it came to fighting it out for the top lot, the lordship of Old Buckenham, Norfolk, which sold for £30,250.

Mrs Joan Jenkins, clerk of the parish council, had come to London especially to buy the title for her parishioners. She was outbid by her neighbour, Mr Terry Cracknell, a local businessman.

The title includes ownership

of the biggest village green in Britain, covering 5,024 acres, for which the new lord of the manor, whose garden adjoins it, will receive £110 a year from the electricity board for the rights to carry its cables.

In all, 39 lordships were sold at the auction and a total of £360,000 was raised.

Sotheby's New York reported a jackpot price for an important piece of American silver which was discovered recently in Britain.

The silver salver had been kept in a drawer at a house in Cambridge since the owner's marriage 25 years ago, and had been taken in all innocence to Sotheby's Chester.

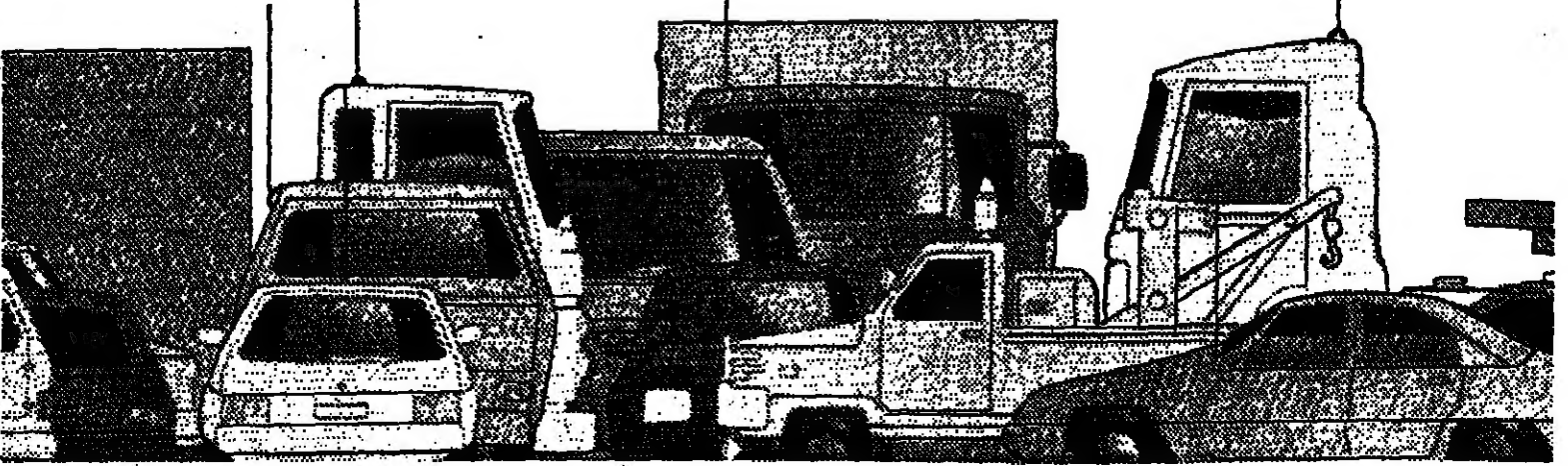
Mr John Phillips, the specialist, recognized it as an important work by the William Simplings of Boston, and sent it for sale in New York where it fetched \$34,100 (estimate \$20,000 to \$30,000).



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October 26 1987

PARLIAMENT

Labour demands statement from the Chancellor

Labour MPs expressed anger that Mr Nigel Lawson, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, was to make a statement to the Stock Exchange on the crisis in the share markets rather than to the House.

In a series of points of order, they called for the Chancellor to come to the Commons and make a statement and offered to change the day's business so that there could be a debate.

The noisy exchanges began when Mr John Smith, chief Opposition spokesman on Treasury and economic affairs, said that the Chancellor had failed to make a statement to the House on the unusual and perturbing situation which had arisen in the financial markets.

Mr Lawson had added insult to injury by proposing to speak to the Stock Exchange in the evening with the result that he would be reporting there about these events instead of to the House of Commons, to whom he was properly accountable.

"I hope it will be possible for the Chancellor to come and make a statement to this House before he addresses the Stock Exchange - he certainly has time to do so - and at the very earliest opportunity accounts to this House for his responsibilities in this matter."

Mr Eric Forth (Mid Worcestershire, C) said that the business of the Commons today was chosen by the Opposition. The subject was entirely up to them.

Since events on the stock market had been unfolding for some days, they could only assume that Opposition MPs did not take sufficient interest in what had been happening there.

Mr Robert Sheldon (Ashford-under-Lyne, Lab) said that it was wholly unprecedented that an economic condition of such significance as a decline of the Stock Exchange and the economic consequences of the collapse in share values should not lead to the Chancellor appearing before the House.

Many MPs saw Mr Lawson night after night on the television screens and yet they had not had the opportunity to question him in the House. That should be remedied without further delay.

Mr Brian Sedgemore (Hackney South and Shoreditch, Lab) said that the House was in danger of looking like a Ruritanian assembly, indulging itself in the periphery but not dealing with the heart of the nation's affairs.

As the financial crisis sent the economies of the Western world



Mr John Smith: "Insult added to injury".

spinning perilously close to calamity, although every commentator in every country had been talking about this matter, there had been no discussion in Parliament.

He understood that the Government had been asked to make a statement and had said that this had nothing to do with them, although the Chancellor was talking to everybody else.

Could Mr Lawson have an opportunity to explain what could be the most dangerous economic factor of the twentieth century?

Mr Tony Banks (Newham North West, Lab) said that there was an additional dimension. In a few days' time, the Government would be hoping to "dig off" its holding in British Petroleum. That was linked to what

was happening on the stock market.

One constituent had asked whether to go for BP shares or get into gold futures (prolonged laughter). "I could not answer and I need the help of the Chancellor of the Exchequer."

Mr Ken Livingstone (Brent East, Lab) said that they faced the most severe recession since the war - (Conservative protests) - and, before the end of the year, would see mortgage foreclosures and a further rise in unemployment. Tory MPs would be crowing like public school-boys about the scale of that recession.

Mr Douglas Hoyle (Warrington North, Lab) said that the casino-like society created by the Chancellor was collapsing. He should be there to explain.

Mr Dennis Skinner (Bolton, Lab) said that this was not just a matter for the casino economy. What was happening in the Stock Exchange and internationally was going to affect the livelihood of all their constituents.

They were concerned about the continuing unemployment that would follow and the further cuts in the Autumn Statement.

"It is a scandal that the Tory Government has not got the guts to present the case at that Dispatch Box and it is time that they did."

Mr Rhodri Morgan (Cardiff West, Lab) asked if the Chancellor's attitude in failing to come to the House and make a statement on the crisis he described as a "Nero-Nero" option.

Mr Anthony Beaman-Dark (Birmingham, Selby, C) protested that the Labour Party wished to make a crisis out of a problem. Stock Exchange prices were higher than they had been this time last year. The Opposition had not been calling for a debate then.

What they wished to do was to cause a crisis where there was no crisis.

The Speaker said that he had not been aware that the Chancellor was giving a statement to



Mr Peter Bottomley, Under Secretary of State, Transport, with children and a wreath at the Department of Transport in London yesterday. They were launching a campaign to draw attention to the needless deaths of children - more than 400 last year - in road accidents.

anyone outside the Commons. Because of that, he had allowed the exchanges to go on.

Mr Frank Dobson, chief Opposition spokesman on House of Commons affairs, said that the Speaker had a responsibility for trying to sustain the reputation of the House.

The decline on the Stock Exchange was being discussed every wine bar and every public house. Mr Lawson was going to

talk to the Stock Exchange but not to the House.

The Speaker replied that there could have been an opportunity to discuss the matter today. There was nothing he could do about it.

Mr Smith said that if the Chancellor would come to the House at 6 o'clock, Labour would propose that the subject for debate be changed to cover this urgent topic.

Mr Tam Dalyell (Linlithgow, Lab) asked whether there had been a change of precedent. In the economic crisis of July 1966, Mr Speaker King took the key decision off his own bat about requiring the then Chancellor of the Exchequer (Mr James Callaghan) to come to the Dispatch Box against his will.

The Speaker replied that he was not responsible for making a statement.

Industrial projects praised

WALES

Wales had secured a total of 207 projects from overseas, involving more than 25,000 jobs and more than £760 million of capital investment, since the establishment of WNI West (Wales Investment Location) in April, 1983, to attract inward investment to the principality, Mr Peter Walker, Secretary of State for Wales, said during question time.

He was replying to Sir Raymond Gower (Vale of Glamorgan, C), who described the contents of the minister's reply as "the greatest success story in the whole Welsh economy".

Did Mr Walker expect that that would continue?

Mr Walker said that he did.

In recent months, the Welsh Office had received inquiries from overseas companies at an average rate of three every four working days.

In a few weeks' time, he would be visiting Japan to meet many companies interested in investing in Wales.

Government victory on Law Officer's power to refer 'too-lenient' sentences

The Government won approval in the House of Lords to give the Attorney General the power to refer unduly lenient sentences to the Court of Appeal which could impose a stiffer sentence. Voting was 151 to 108, a government majority of 43.

The new clause to the Criminal Justice Bill was introduced by the Government during the third day of the committee stage, replacing its original proposal which gave the Court of Appeal only the power to issue guidelines on controversial sentences, such as in the Ealing Vicarage rape case.

However, Lord Lane, Lord Chief Justice, and several other leading judges had urged the Government during previous consideration of the Bill to make a more radical reform.

Opposition and Alliance peers did not press to vote their amendment which set up a sentencing council to consider and review sentencing policy.

Lord Cailness, Minister of State, Home Office, said it was no secret that the Government had wrestled with the problem of how to make unduly lenient sentences and had been at-

tracted by different solutions to it.

The problem is not that sentences are generally unduly lenient but that very occasionally, especially in serious cases of public interest, a sentence is passed that arouses widespread concern about which there is no obvious remedy.

The Government's original more modest proposal was to give the Attorney General power to refer cases to the Court of Appeal for guidelines. However that had been criticized on the grounds that it involved the Attorney General in sentencing policy and also from some peers who thought it was too modest and did nothing to increase public confidence in the judiciary.

Caught in the crossfire, it seemed to Mr Douglas Hurd (the Home Secretary) that it was better to adopt the system of appeal which is used in several Commonwealth countries, including Australia, New Zealand and Canada.

Under the new clause the Attorney General had to decide within 28 days whether or not a

HOUSE OF LORDS

sentence should be referred to the Court of Appeal. He did not expect more than 12 cases a year to be affected, based on the experience in other countries. He believed that the fears of those who argued the new clause would bring about a change in the role of the prosecution were exaggerated.

Lord Elwyn Jones, the former Lord Chancellor, speaking for the Opposition, moved an amendment which would set up an American-style sentencing council made up of the Lord Chief Justice with judges and Home Office officials to review sentencing policy from time to time and issue guidelines.

He said, as a former Attorney General, he did not like the Government proposal at all as it plunged the Attorney General at once into one side of the process and so damaged his position as representative of public interests fairly and firmly.

The Government proposal would subject the offender to a kind of double jeopardy where

he could be dealt with twice for the same offence. It was a move towards trial by television and media.

One could understand vigour in prosecution, but that was very different from intervening in the sentencing scene. He pointed out that the Government White Paper published in March 1986 resisted such a move. But now the Government had changed its mind.

At the end of the day the judges should be trusted. He believed the standard of judiciary was as good now as it ever was.

Lord Hinchinbrook of Llangynidr (SDP), who also supported Lord Elwyn Jones's amendment, said the prosecution had never been linked with longer sentences and harsher treatment for defendants. However, it did show this Government was hell bent on bringing into the criminal procedure features of inferior systems from overseas.

He said the Government proposal was wrong in principle, wrong constitutionally, and wrong traditionally. The great characteristic of Britain's sys-

tem of sentences was that judges decided on individual cases using their own judgement and after gaining a feel for the case.

Lord Lane, Lord Chief Justice, supported the Government proposal. He said the more the prosecution could play a part in the procedure, without determining that X years should be the minimum, the less likely it was that the Crown would need to appeal against over lenient sentences.

He said the power for the Court of Appeal to impose stiffer sentences was necessary because at the moment there was no redress if a judge had a rush of blood to the head and, for instance, fined a rapist 50p.

Lord Denning, the former Master of the Rolls, said that he had changed his mind on the issue.

He recalled sentencing a man of good character to nine months imprisonment for moving down two girl cyclists. Later he believed he had made a mistake and should have given the man 18 months to two years' imprisonment but there was no remedy.

Hurd spells out the weapons to be banned

FIREARMS

The Government's proposals for tightening the law controlling the possession of firearms were outlined to MPs by Mr Douglas Hurd, the Home Secretary.

Speaking during a Commons debate on the subject, he said that the type of Kalashnikov rifle used by Michael Ryan in Hungerford would be among weapons to be banned.

He pointed out, however, that with illegal arms it was not a problem of the law but of enforcement. "We cannot give safety of the public against the kind of quiet, withdrawn citizen who answers every question, fills in every form and keeps every law until the moment comes when he commits some atrocious crime. We cannot give an absolute guarantee against Ryan."

The Government's package of measures should be completed by the end of next month and a Bill introduced before Christmas.

Opening the debate, Mr Roy Hattersley, chief Opposition spokesman on home affairs, moved an Opposition motion supporting the need for legislation to provide additional, stringent controls over the possession and use of firearms.

The motion wanted that legislation to require a separate certificate for each individual firearm and a central register of all approved firearms, to prohibit the private sale and use of all automatic and semi-automatic weapons and to ban all mail-order sales of firearms.

Mr Hattersley said that the motion sought a strengthening of the gun laws as demanded by the public and by police forces. He assumed that Mr Hurd was still not ready to stand up to the shotgun and mail order lobbies.

Public anxiety had been heightened by the Hungerford tragedy and the other terrible shootings of the summer. But it was important to make clear that those terrible events had demonstrated, rather than created, the urgent need for gun control.

He thought that the case for

● **Hungerford cannot have an absolute guarantee** ●

tighter gun control was generally accepted. The point at issue was the best way to achieve it.

The Opposition supported the Home Secretary's proposals to prohibit the manufacture, sale and possession of various martial arts weapons. It also supported his plans to make it illegal to carry knives or similar weapons in a public place, except in defined circumstances.

The Opposition would also support the Government in prohibiting the sale of knives by post, catalogue or mail order.

Mr Hurd intended to state the case of proof on to individuals carrying knives. Normally, such a requirement would be wholly unacceptable in a free society. But he believed that, in the particular case of knives, it was possible to construct powers that preserved essential liberties and enabled the police to act effectively.

He still opposed the general principle of stop-and-search. But the right to stop on reasonable suspicion and to search, with the safeguard of appropriate warning and subject to report, was necessary when a police officer suspected the possession of an offensive weapon.

Gun club members should have to keep their guns and ammunition at the club, rather than carry them home.

Mr Hurd moved a Government amendment that the House believed the time had come for a strengthened system of firearm controls, supported the need for further urgent but careful and detailed consideration of other measures under review and endorsed the Government's intention to an-

nounce shortly the outcome of this examination and to introduce new firearms legislation during this session of Parliament.

He said that as regards illegal firearms, the problem was not one of the law, but of enforcement.

"There is no point in pretending that by making changes in the law we could guarantee the safety of the public against the kind of quiet, withdrawn citizen who answers every question, fills in every form and keeps every law until the moment comes when he commits some atrocious crime. We cannot give an absolute guarantee against Ryan."

The House had to recognize

● **Shotguns will have, by law, to be stored securely** ●

the wide variety of legitimate, often admirable and highly disciplined ways in which firearms were used in the United Kingdom.

"Weighing all this, the Government has concluded that the time has come to make a substantial shift in the law. One of the weapons used by Michael Ryan was a 7.62 calibre self-loading Kalashnikov rifle."

"I can see no justification for the possession of such weapons in private hands and I believe that these should become prohibited weapons. I also propose that burst-fire weapons, carbines and certain short-barrelled shotguns should become prohibited."

"The case with which military and other weapons can be converted from one classification to another has been a source of concern. 'My proposal is, therefore, that where a firearm is converted to a lower one, it will retain its original, higher classification.'

"In other words, once a Bren gun, always a Bren gun."

He proposed closing the loophole whereby visitors to the United Kingdom could purchase and possess shotguns without a licence. He had also concluded that pump action and self-loading shotguns should be brought under Section 1 control so that good reason would be necessary for their possession.

"I am satisfied too, that there must be a statutory obligation on shotgun holders to store their shotguns securely when they are not being used."

The Government was also proposing raising the maximum penalty for being in possession of a shotgun without a licence in line with the similar offences in respect of other firearms. This would make it an indictable offence, with a maximum penalty of three years' imprisonment, or a fine, or both.

"The Government recognizes the importance of taking illegally held firearms out of circulation and of ensuring that it intends to conduct a firearms amnesty during the course of next year."

It was necessary to allow time to consider the proposals because the final arrangements had to be robust enough to last another 20 years.

Parliament today

Commons (2.30): Questions: Social Services; Prime Minister: Debate on defence estimates, first day.
Lords (2.30): Criminal Justice Bill, committee, fourth day.

Alton has support of women

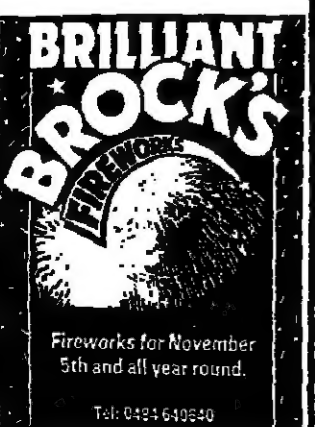
Seventy per cent of women support Mr David Alton's Bill to reduce the upper limit for abortions from 28 to 18 weeks, according to a Gallup poll conducted for the Society for the Protection of Unborn Children and published today.

Asked whether they believed the Bill went far enough, only 14 per cent of women said it was too strict, while 52 per cent believed it was about right and 18 per cent believed the limit should be reduced still further.

Among men, 44 per cent felt it was about right, with 22 per cent saying it was too strict and 10 per cent saying it was not strict enough.

The findings come just a day before Mr Alton presents his Bill to the Commons. The Liberal MP, who resigned his position as party chief whip to promote it, described the poll as "a great boost" which would give his campaign "enormous momentum".

The poll was conducted between October 9 and 13 among 882 respondents.



Four 'pro-life' measures for House

By Martin Fletcher
Political Reporter

Backbench MPs of all parties will present to the Commons tomorrow some of the most contentious private members' Bills for many years, and some which will have an immediate impact on the lives of the ordinary citizen if they reach the statute book.

Of the MPs who drew the top 20 places in the ballot for Bills last July, no fewer than four have adopted "pro-life" measures. The one with the best chance of getting legislation enacted is Mr David Alton, the former Liberal C. Whip.

He is proposing to reduce the legal limit for abortion from 28 to 18 weeks. The pro and anti-abortion lobbies are preparing for a mighty showdown. Mr Alton came third in the ballot and has a good chance of success, although it is possible that compromise amendments may be carried.

Of the other three, Mr Edward Leigh, Conservative MP for Gainsborough, wants clinics to be licensed to perform abortions on foreign women and required to arrange after-care for their patients.

Mr Kenneth Hind, Tory MP for Lancashire West, hopes to outlaw experiments on the human embryo and Mr Nicholas Winterton, Tory MP for Macclesfield, wants to ban cash links between clinics and the agencies that refer women to them for abortions. As all three came below fifteenth in the ballot they stand practically no chance of success.



Mr David Alton (left), who came third, and Mr Richard Shepherd, who topped the ballot.



Mr Richard Shepherd, who topped the ballot.

The second most contentious Bill is that of Mr Richard Shepherd, Conservative MP for Aldridge-Brownhills, who topped the ballot.

He wants to repeal the widely discredited catch-all Section 2 of the Official Secrets Act, replacing it with six specific categories of information for which disclosure could still attract charges.

They would include information relating to defence, international affairs, and security or intelligence whose unauthorized disclosure could seriously damage national interests.

As the Bill deals with national security it will be almost impossible for the Government to stay neutral. Whether it reaches the statute book will

depend primarily on whether the Government, which acknowledges the need for reform, comes down for or against.

Mr Archie Kirkwood, Liberal MP for Roxburgh, wants to enable patients to see reports written by doctors for insurance companies and employers. Mr Christopher Smith, Labour MP for Islington South, wants the introduction of public registers of enforcement notices that have been served after breaches of the law on public safety and environmental pollution.

They came ninth and tenth, respectively, in the ballot, and only the top dozen Bills stand any chance of success unless they have either government support or are so uncontroversial that they go through on the nod.

Number five in the ballot was Mr Stephen Day, Tory MP for Cheshire. He wants to make it compulsory for children under 14 to wear seatbelts in the rear of those cars that have them fitted. The Government is sympathetic.

Mr Nicholas Soames, Conservative MP for Crawley, who came seventh, wants to legalize Sunday sport. At present, certain events, such as the Wimbledon finals and the British Grand Prix, are technically illegal under the Sunday Observance Act, 1780.

Mr Bill Walker, Tory MP for Tayside North and second in the ballot, was yesterday the definition of what can genuinely be described by manufacturers as Scotch whisky, or a Bill to empower the Government to order disinvestment where companies have been taken over improperly.

Mr Jim Pawsey, Tory MP for Rugby and fourth in the ballot, has Consumers' Association backing for a Bill that will give consumers the right to go to court to settle disputes with, for instance, builders or removal firms which have written private arbitration clauses into their contracts.

Miss Emma Nicholson, Tory MP for Devon West and Tenth in the ballot, has government backing for a Bill to sanction the slaughter of deer in licensed abattoirs, a move that could popularize the eating of venison.

First payments on the Tsarist bonds

By Our Political Reporter

The Foreign Office is about to announce the first compensation payments for Tsarist government bonds, almost 70 years to the day since the start of the Russian Revolution, which rendered them worthless.

The 4,600 claimants are set to receive double what they were led to expect. An interim payment of about £3 million will be made now, with a final payment of a similar amount at a later stage.

That represents approximately 20 per cent of the total value of the claims submitted for bonds after the agreement reached between the British and Soviet governments in July last year.

The Government originally indicated that claimants might receive about 10 per cent of the value of their claims, but in the event far fewer claims than expected were received. The last time there was any indication of the number of bonds still in existence was in 1951 when the Foreign Office closed its Russian compensation files.

Speaker refuses debate

A request for an emergency debate on the decision last Thursday to drop prosecution proceedings against three men accused of conspiring to kidnap members of the African National Congress was rejected by the Speaker.

The men had appeared before Lambeth Magistrates' Court when no evidence was offered against them.

Many have since been lost, destroyed, or used for wallpaper.

Ministers expect criticism for underestimating the payments that claimants would receive, but will argue that they made it clear that the 10 per cent figure was at best a "guesstimate". Those who chose not to claim will also find that, with about 750,000 bonds about to be destroyed, the rarity value of those still in circulation will be considerably enhanced.

The final payment for bonds cannot be made until it is known how much of the £50 million fund must go to those whose forebears lost property as a result of the October Revolution.

Claims have been made for everything from farms and factories to parrots and tins of corned beef. Administrators of the Russian Compensation Fund must somehow check the accuracy of each claim and surmount problems raised by such matters as exchange rate fluctuations.

Mr Richard Caborn (Sheffield Central, Lab), making application, said that while the Attorney General had answered some questions, he had left many unanswered and had "caused and provoked many more", not least about the involvement of British and South African security services. The Speaker rejected the request.

Challenge to RUC decision

Sir Eldon Griffiths, parliamentarian spokesman for three UK police federations yesterday challenged the decision of the RUC Chief Constable, Sir John Hermon, not to publish the RUC's recently promulgated code of conduct and said that, if necessary, he would publish it himself by putting it on the Commons record.

The 13-point code of conduct was sent to all the RUC's 11,000 men and women last week and is to be incorporated in the first chapter of its operations manual, under the title "Professional Policing Ethics".

At a news conference last week, the Chief Constable emphasized he had no intention of publishing the code of conduct, drafting of which began in January, 1985, about ten months before the Anglo-Irish agreement was signed.

On Saturday, the Irish News, Northern Ireland's Roman Catholic daily newspaper, published the 13 articles in a report which an RUC statement later dismissed as "inaccurate and in some instances erroneous and misleading".

Yesterday, the Irish News stood by its report, again printed the 13 articles and said that, when challenged, RUC headquarters had been unable to be more specific about its alleged inaccuracies.

From Westminster Sir Eldon said the code must, sooner or later, be made public.

Poll tax fear fails to deter voters from registering

By David Walker, Public Administration Correspondent

The prospect of the community charge or poll tax is not deterring voters from registering on the electoral roll, according to a survey by *The Times*.

Critics of the tax, which will be introduced in Scotland in 1989 and England and Wales in spring 1990, claim people would be deterred from registering on the electoral roll if it is used to compile a list of those eligible to pay the community charge.

Meanwhile the Government's latest calculations of the effect of the community charge show that 10 million households will gain and 7.7 million will lose.

Mr Michael Howard, Minister for Local Government, indicated that on a head count, the losers might outnumber the gainers since many of the households that will gain contain single parents or old people live alone.

"Those who pay less will include some of the most vulnerable members of the community. The vast majority of one-parent families and single pensioners will pay less with the community charge than with rates," he said.

In the *Times* survey, electoral registration officers on Merseyside, in the West Midlands, in Yorkshire and Greater London report just as many registration forms being returned as in previous years.

In some parts of the country, such as Sheffield, there has even been an increase.

Among the big cities, only in Manchester is there any sign of reluctance to register to vote. Mr Andrew Scallan, the city's electoral officer, compared this year with last and found a 15,000 increase in the number of households not returning their forms.

Mr Scallan said: "We simply do not know at this stage whether this represents a reluctance to register because of poll tax. It could be that people do not see the need to register to vote because it is only a few months since the general election."

Mr Charles Latham, Liverpool's elections officer, said no significant drop in registrations had been detected, although he was picking up a tendency for parents not to put down the names of teenagers who would become eligible to vote during the currency of the register. This could, he said, be because of fear of the poll tax.

Elsewhere the pattern is that registrations are much as expected, given that registrations tend to drop after a general election. In Wolverhampton, for example, registrations have been hit by the fact that during 1987 as well as the general election there have been local elections and a European Assembly by-election.

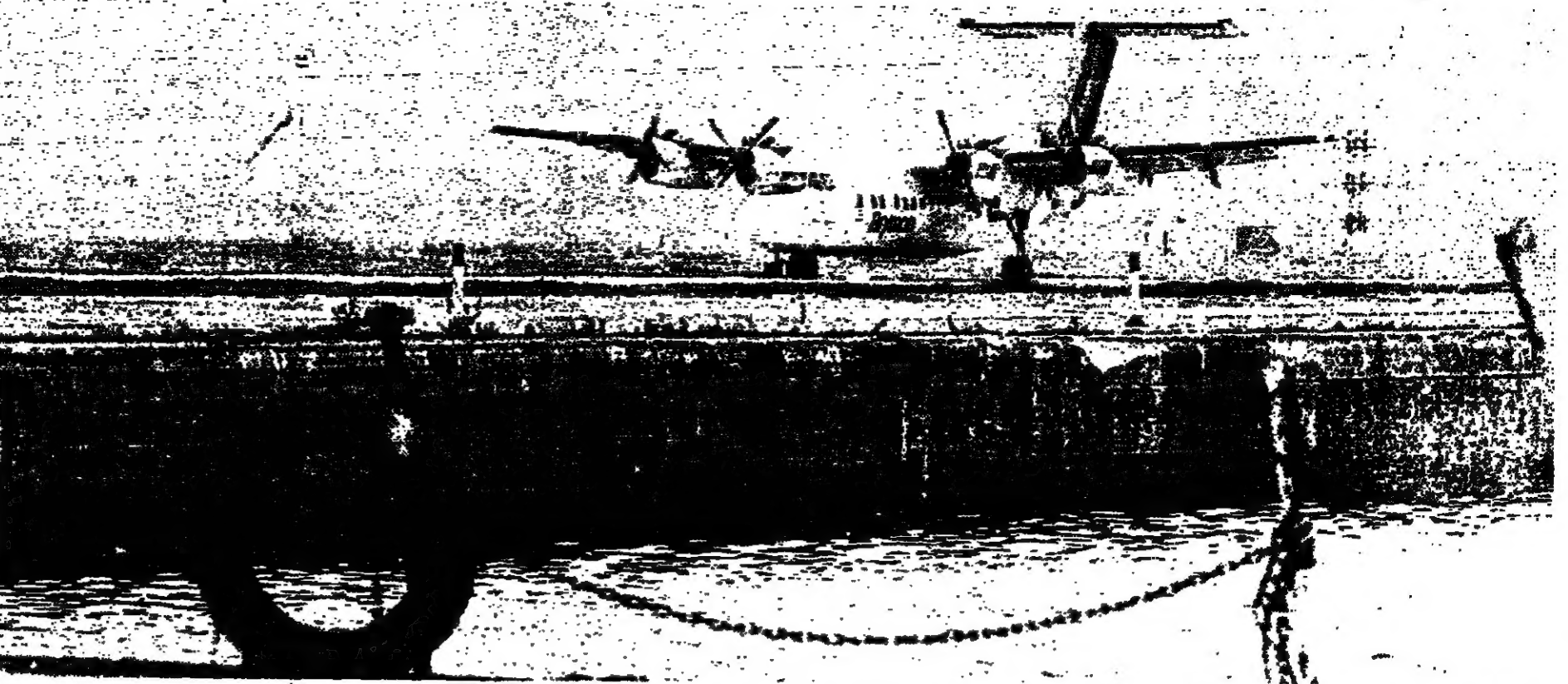
Of the London boroughs, Wandsworth, Barking and Islington show no evidence of a drop. Election officers in Redbridge and Waltham Forest said they felt the response was more sluggish but were convinced that by the time forms were collated and there had been a follow-up canvass of electors, numbers would be up to scratch.

In the shire districts, the picture is generally as reported by Mr Rod Tuck, chief administrative officer of Torbay. "Poll tax fears, which may be there, have had no significant effect on voting registration."

Mr Derek Bell, elections officer in Labour-controlled Sheffield, said that at this stage in compiling the register he usually has a return of about 65 per cent of households. This year the figure is 80 per cent, which he puts down to an active publicity campaign persuading people to register.

The cost of compiling a separate register of poll tax payers, to include every person over the age of 18, will be substantially reduced if the electoral register is accurate and complete.

Last-minute dash for the new dockland airport



London City Airport opened for business yesterday just three hours after the last workmen had left, and with paint still drying in the passenger lounges (Our Air Correspondent writes).

The race to prepare the £38 million airport in time was won just after 4 am. By then everything was in place except the business

centre which, it is hoped, will attract thousands of customers from the City and the continent.

Although the first day of operations was comparatively quiet, both Brynmawr and Eurocity, the airlines operating from the airport built on the site of the old Royal Dock, predict that bookings will soon pick up.

Neither expect many advance bookings

because they are relying on instant decisions by business passengers to fly to Paris or Brussels.

Throughout the day, the steady stream of De Havilland Dash-7 aircraft departing and landing (see above) had sometimes only a handful of paying passengers on board. Whether this will be enough to make a profit,

with landing fees of £220 for each landing plus £25 per passenger, remains to be seen.

Both Brynmawr and Eurocity plan to meet the airport's developers and owners, Mowlem, to try to reduce the landing charges. They are higher than those at Heathrow in the winter. The Queen will open the airport formally on November 5. (Photograph: Tim Bishop.)

The Times/RICS conservation awards

Top prize goes to docklands

By John Young

An immaculate restoration of part of London's docklands was rewarded last night with one of the two top prizes in the 1987 conservation awards scheme sponsored by *The Times* and the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors.

Mr Michael Clark, president of the RICS and Mr Charles Wilson, editor of *The Times*, said the conversion of New Concordia Wharf, a grain warehouse which fell out of use in the 1960s, into flats, workshops, studios and offices, was of quite outstanding merit.

It had been immaculately and imaginatively conceived and carried out and aptly illustrated the qualities sought in the scheme.

Those were meticulous conservation work on a building of character, enhancement of the building itself and its surroundings and great social benefit to the community.

inspired by constructive, entrepreneurial vision.

The prize was awarded to the Jacobs Island Company. The architects were Pollard Thomas Edwards and Associates, the engineers Alan Baxter and Associates and the quantity surveyors E.C. Harris and Partners.

The other top award went to the King's Lynn Preservation Trust, in Norfolk, for the restoration of part of a terrace of fourteenth century timber-framed houses and its conversion to modern offices.

The judges say that the superb preservation of this ancient building is a great asset to the town.

It has been sensitively carried out, so that the Norman structure remains clearly visible. Timber preservation and joinery are quite exceptional in quality and detail. The

quantity surveyors were Stockings and Clarke.

Mr Clark announced last night that the theme of the 1988 awards would be coast and countryside.

Awards would be given for outstanding projects which improved public facilities for the enjoyment of the countryside and rural coastline.

Entries should be in one of two categories: environmental projects providing public access to areas of scenic beauty or wildlife interest or water-based amenities, or educational projects including rural craft museums, interpretive centres or farm museums.

Projects must have been completed between January 1, 1985, and December 31, 1987, and must be entered by January 29, 1988. Entry forms can be obtained from Margaret Cox, 89 Erskine Hill, London NW11 6HH.

Spectrum, page 12

Sotheby's face claim over copy

By Andrew Morgan

A couple whose living-room painting Sotheby's overvalued by nearly £40,000 yesterday said they were considering seeking compensation from the auction house for distress.

Sotheby's was given the painting after Mr Gordon Melville and his wife, Edith, had been given a valuation on the BBC's *Antiques Roadshow*. The auctioneers said they had carefully examined the painting and valued it between £30,000 and £40,000, advising them to sell in November.

Earlier, Mr David Mason, resident expert on the BBC's *Antiques Roadshow*, had valued the painting, which the couple called "The Hare in the Snow", at up to £50,000 during a recording on July 9. He said it was the work of the Swedish painter Brune Liljefors.

Mr Melville signed a contract on August 19 allowing Sotheby's to sell the painting. Hearing nothing for weeks, Mr Melville telephoned Miss Cherry Kisch, of Sotheby's nineteenth century art department, who said there were doubts on authenticity.

Mr Alex Apis, of Sotheby's, told him last week he had located the original in a private Swedish collection and Mr Melville's painting, dated about 1900, was a copy worth £500.

In a letter, Mr Apis said the initial valuation was a "first impression". Mr Melville said: "We were devastated." Sotheby's said yesterday: "We are not infallible and it must be a mega-disappointment but if our expertise had not been so good, then a fake could have been released on to the art market."

The BBC said last night that the show's producers were disappointed. Mr Mason said it was his first big mistake in 10 years. Mr Christopher Lewis, the producer, described the painting as a "brilliant fake".

Aids forum Call to let nurses prescribe drugs

By Jill Sherman, Social Services Correspondent

Nurses must be able prescribe and administer intravenous drugs to Aids sufferers so that more people can be cared for at home, the Royal College of Nursing said yesterday.

Mr Richard Wells, the college's adviser on Aids, said that it would be impossible to cope with the expected numbers of patients with Aids and related infections unless community nurses took on more responsibility.

The conference was told that by 1991 more than a million people in this country are expected to be infected with the HIV virus, of whom at least 20,000 would have developed the disease.

"Unless we then build hundreds of hospitals, which is clearly impossible, there will be no care for these dying people", Mr Wells said.

Speaking at the inaugural conference of the college's Nursing Forum on Aids, Mr Wells said that it was absurd that community nurses in many health authorities were not allowed to inject drugs into Aids sufferers unless they had been on extensive special courses.

"As a cancer nurse I can tell a nine-year old child with Down's syndrome how to administer drugs into a catheter. I can show her father and mother how to do it but I cannot show a nurse."

Nurses must call for the right both to prescribe and administer drugs.

He criticized nurse managers and general managers for trying to prevent nurses with basic training from administering drugs.

Former prostitute loses test tube baby appeal

A former prostitute who is unable to have children lost her appeal yesterday against a decision to ban her from a test tube baby programme.

Mr Justice Schiemann refused in the High Court to order a judicial review of the ruling against Mrs Janet Harriott by St Mary's Hospital, Manchester.

Mrs Harriott, aged 36, of Levenshulme, Manchester, was put on the waiting list for *in vitro* fertilization in 1983. However, her application was rejected 18 months later after the hospital learned that her previous attempts at adoption had been refused because of convictions for running a brothel and soliciting.

She was seen by Dr Pamela Buck who at first told her that she was being refused the fertilization treatment because her husband's semen was infected.

"The true reason for the refusal was not revealed to the lady", the judge said. Later the doctor told Mrs Harriott she could not be treated because of a liver abnormality.

It was not until September 1985 that Mrs Harriott and her husband were told that the decision was made because of the refusal by the adoption agencies to consider placing children with them.

Mrs Harriott accused the hospital's Infertility Services Ethical Committee of wrongly advising her removal from the list of applicants. She claimed the decision was made without giving her the opportunity to answer the allegations made against her.

The judge said: "I have no reason to suspect that they have acted unfairly." Mrs Harriott had the chance to give Dr Buck more information.

MSC cash saves city job charity

A jobs charity which set up a community project run by a man who Home Office ministers want dismissed is to be rescued by funds from the Manpower Services Commission.

Mr Kenneth Boleyn, who has convictions for firebombing a police station and for assault on the police, was appointed acting coordinator of the project at St Paul's, Bristol. The scheme, was established by the charity, Bristol 1,000, to help with black groups with a view to setting up a Local Development Agency.

The charity has a £225,000 deficit which the MSC has agreed to defray provided it can find alternative sources of funding. It is hoping to receive support from the Labour-controlled Bristol City Council, which has also contributed to Mr Boleyn's project.

Major funding for the project came from the Local Development Agency Fund, which receives £1 million a year from the Home Office and the departments of Health and Social Security, Transport and the Environment, to aid community organizations.

Mr Boleyn, aged 27, had the support of Mr William Waldegrave, Conservative MP for Bristol West and Minister for Housing and Planning, until Mr Boleyn led a group on a tour of Northern Ireland last month and later praised the IRA.

Mr John Patten, Minister of State at the Home Office, threatened at the weekend to reconsider the fund's future unless something was done about Mr Boleyn's job.

Mr Nigel Siederer, the fund's co-ordinator, said yesterday that its money was paid to an agency, not an individual.

Cut-throat evidence warning

Two of the men accused of murdering five people at Burgess House in Huddersfield last year had used a "cut-throat" defence, each pointing a finger at the other, the jury was told yesterday.

Mr Justice Hothouse, summing up on the sixteenth day of the trial at Winchester Crown Court, told the jury that in spite of the horrific crimes committed, and the defence tactics of George Stephenson, aged 35, and George Daly, aged 25, the case should be viewed dispassionately.

Although the accused were members of what could be called the "criminal classes", that did not mean they were guilty. It was for the Crown to prove their guilt. The defence did not have to prove anything.

Mr Justice Hothouse said there had been what was colloquially known as a "cut-throat defence". Mr George Daly had given evidence strongly adverse to Mr Stephenson and, likewise, Mr Stephenson had given evidence strongly adverse to both Mr George Daly and the third accused, John Dwyer, aged 21.

"You must be very careful in evaluating such evidence. It is not safe to go to the evidence of one of the accused or of either George Stephenson or George Daly," he said.

The main defence, mounting Mr Joseph Claver, aged 82, his wife Hilka, aged 82, their son Thomas, aged 46, his wife Wendy, aged 46, and Mrs Margaret Murphy, aged 70, a residential nurse.

Mr George Daly and Mr Stephenson also deny charges of rape and robbery. John Daly has admitted charges of rape and robbery.

The trial continues today.

Tobacco advert ban urged

By Thomson Prentice, Science Correspondent

The British Medical Association and a leading cancer charity called on the Government yesterday to impose a ban on cigarette advertising as part of a campaign to cut smoking among children and teenagers.

The association is also hoping to win the support of churches in giving anti-smoking leaflets to couples about to marry, to warn them of the health risks to themselves and their children, should they start a family.

Dr John Dawson, head of the BMA's professional and scientific division, said yesterday: "The Government must not prevaricate any further and must introduce a ban on all cigarette advertising, together with an increase in cigarette taxation at the next Budget."

Responses from the Roman Catholic and Anglican Churches to the plan to offer

anti-smoking leaflets to couples about to marry are said to have been "broadly enthusiastic".

Some four-year-olds puff their parents' cigarettes, and infants may learn to like the smell of tobacco on their parents, Dr Anne Charlton of the Cancer Research Campaign, said.

By the age of 11, almost half of children who smoke have frequent coughs, nearly twice as many as non-smoking children, she said.

A Government report published last week showed that 12 per cent of girls aged between 11 and 16 in England and Wales smoke cigarettes, as do 7 per cent of boys in the same age group.

In Scotland, 14 per cent of girls and 10 per cent of both girls and boys of those ages also smoke.

The higher rate among girls

was largely because teenage girls wanted to be slim and attractive and believed smoking kept their weight down, Dr Charlton, director of the charity's education and child studies research group in Manchester, said.

But children had an important role to play in helping each other and their parents to give up cigarettes. "We have seen a significant reduction among fathers whose sons and daughters brought home health education messages from school," Dr Charlton said.

Children from the North-west of England are to meet Mrs Edwina Currie, Under-Secretary of State at the Department of Health and Social Security, at the Commons on Thursday to tell her of their anti-smoking campaigns. The children are among 25,000 members of the "Smokebusters' Club".

Data protection: 2

Offenders face unlimited fines after spot checks on files

Alongside the new right to see personal computer files which takes effect on November 11, the Data Protection Registrar's powers as the watchdog for the new laws come fully into force.

The registrar and his officials will conduct "spot checks" on who is complying with the law. Persistent non-compliance can lead to prosecution and, in the crown court, unlimited fines.

Mr John Lamdey, assistant registrar in charge of investigations, said: "We are just starting to crank up. From January this year we have had a team of 13 investigators who cover all parts of the country on our behalf."

There is still considerable

confusion, he added. "But time has gone on and we must now bring our enforcement powers to bear."

Mr Eric Howe, data protection registrar, and his 60 staff based at Wilmslow, Cheshire, are charged with ensuring that those who process personal data, bar certain exemptions, have registered and conform to certain principles.

These cover how the data are collected, what they are used for, its accuracy and relevance, and security. Not only is it a criminal offence not to register under the Act if personal data covered by the Act are handled, it is a criminal offence for a company or individual data user

to use that data in any way not stated on the register entry.

If there is a breach of the Act or its principles, people can complain to the registrar or pursue a claim in the courts. The registrar may either try for a "mediated" solution or use his powers to prosecute or to issue enforcement notices.

These require data users to take specified action to comply with the law and failure to do so is a criminal offence.

The registrar can issue a notice wiping a user from the register, preventing him from

processing the data legally. There is a right of appeal against a notice to the Data Protection Tribunal.

"I cannot act like God; my notices are challengeable and a court would decide who was right," Mr Howe said.

Last week saw the first use by data protection officials of their powers to search and seize, in a raid on the home of a special constable in Staffordshire. They applied for a warrant at Stafford Crown Court after complaints from police that he was processing data on other constables.

Mr Lamdey said the man was not registered as a data user. "Normally we would apply for a warrant having first notified the person. But there is provision for us to go to a judge without doing so, and we felt that in this case, this was appropriate because the individual might otherwise destroy the evidence."

Computer users who process personal data have had since May 11 1986 to comply with the Data Protection Act 1984, by registering what data they hold and why.

Mr Howe believes they should have about 260,000-250,000 users registered as against the present total of about 145,000. But new registrations have been com-

ing in fast since the issuing of a simplified form for small businesses.

For many companies, the Act has required a big effort to gear up to ensure compliance both with its principles and to meet the new right of access.

But there have also been difficulties for the many thousands of home computer owners in knowing whether or not they should register under the Act.

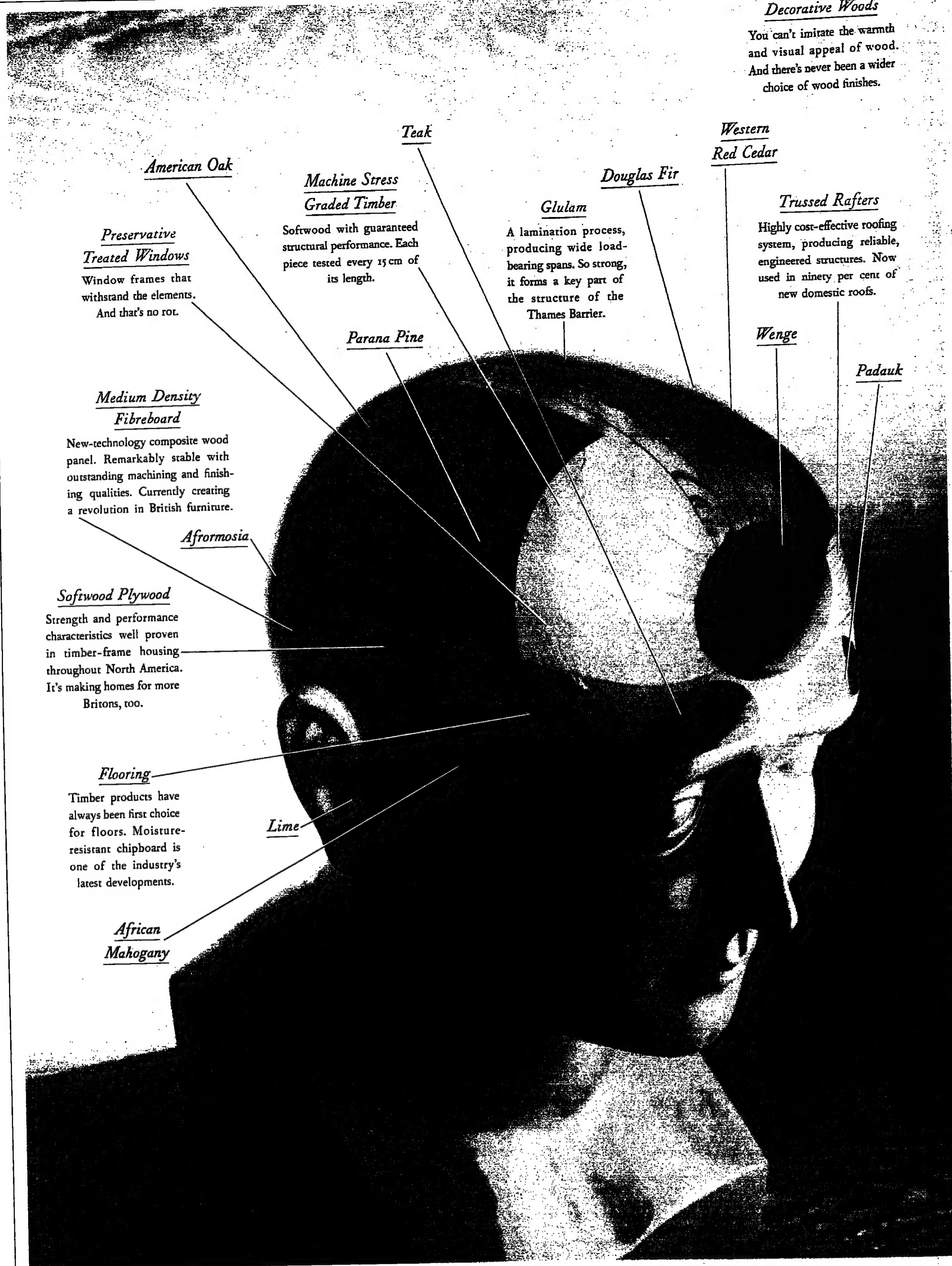
The right of people to see their files could have a marked effect on compliance with the law. Mr Howe, who predicts a rise in complaints, hopes that requests by the public "will have the salutary effect of winking out unregistered users."

Concluded

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WORLD SUMMARY

Salvador rights leader is killed

San Salvador (AFP) — Gunmen shot and killed the president of the Salvadoran Human Rights Commission, Señor Herber Anaya Sanabria (below), as he was leaving his home here yesterday, witnesses said. Señor Anaya, aged 53, was shot at point-blank range by two unidentified gunmen using automatic weapons with silencers.



Witnesses said Señor Anaya had gone to get his car in a parking lot near his home in the northern part of the city to take his children to school when he was shot. The children witnessed the killing but escaped. An official of the Human Rights Commission accused the Salvadoran Government and armed forces of responsibility for the assassination and said other commission members had received death threats.

Train link approved

Brussels — Five European Transport Ministers last night gave the green signal for a high-speed train service linking Britain with the continent through the Channel tunnel (Jonathan Braude writes).

At the meeting in Brussels, Mr Paul Chamoun, the Transport Secretary, and his French, German, Belgian and Dutch counterparts gave political approval for a service expected to carry more than 40 million passengers a year by 1995.

Solidarity Belgrade boycott criticized

Warsaw (Reuters) — Poland's outlawed Solidarity trade union has called for a boycott of a national referendum in which the Government is seeking support for a radical reform programme.

It said the referendum was vaguely worded and warned Poles against taking part in what it called a "propaganda exercise". "One should remember that the country is ruled today by the same group that six years ago quashed Solidarity's democratic aspirations by imposing martial law," the statement, signed by Mr Lech Walesa, said.

Philippines bombing

Zamboanga, Philippines (Reuters) — Rebels blasted a business centre being held in a Roman Catholic dormitory on Wednesday, killing three people and wounding 26, the military said yesterday. Six bridges in the southern Philippines were also bombed.

No one has claimed responsibility for the dormitory attack but the army says it was the work of the Muslim rebel group, the Moro National Liberation Front, which is fighting for independence. The bomb was hidden in a paper bag among books belonging to the businessmen.

Israel Defector's camp raid dilemma

Dashik, Israel (Reuters) — A young Israeli defector who fled to the Soviet Union in April and yesterday he was "court-martined" after rejecting an "East German offer of asylum".

The soldier, who is living in a Moscow hotel with his West German girlfriend, said he might like to live in East Germany.

But he said the East German Embassy in Moscow had informed him yesterday he would be sent to a detention camp where he would be active there and subject to the American citizenship law.

Peking fans celebrate

Peking — In the first large gathering of people in central Peking since the student demonstrations last winter, a crowd of jubilant Chinese football fans thronged, sang and set off fireworks to celebrate their team's 2-0 victory over Japan (Mary Dejevsky writes).

After the match, which was shown live on Chinese television, about 300 fans converged on the Japanese Embassy and yelled triumphantly round and round it, shouting and singing.

Mr George Shultz has warned that if the Soviet Union continues to delay, there might be no further progress in the INF treaty negotiations between Mr Gorbachev and President Reagan. But would that really matter?

There was a natural reaction of disappointment in the West when Mr Gorbachev refused to fix a date last week. It seemed too much like Reykjavik all over again. Once more, the Soviet leader had encouraged hopes only to dash them at the last moment. Once more, Mr Shultz's ingenuitous countenance proclaimed his dismay to the world.

Yet the memory of Reykjavik should have been a reminder that not all summitries serve a useful purpose. An INF treaty — whatever one may think of its merits — can be agreed without the two leaders meeting in Washington next month. Negotiations can still proceed on other forms of disarmament if both sides want them.

Another summit at this time would have had two possible functions. It might have been an occasion to resolve at the very top deadlocks that had developed at official level. But while that sounds fine in theory, one must ask whether President Reagan is really equipped to conduct that kind of negotiation with Mr Gorbachev. The lesson of Reykjavik is surely that this would be taking too much of a chance with Western, and more specifically European, security interests.

A summit would also have had a political dimension. It would have given Mr Reagan the chance of a public success to distract attention from all



Geoffrey Smith

his other difficulties, and it might well have suffered the disarming process in a euphoric glow.

But for any President of the United States to go into discussions with the leader of the Soviet Union — in order to relieve his political embarrassments at home would be precisely the wrong basis on which to conduct the dialogue. That would be to negotiate in a spirit of political vulnerability, which could be nearly as dangerous as negotiating from military weakness.

It would also be undesirable to encourage a sense of euphoria about disarmament. In saying this, I am certainly not arguing against the whole process. To be opposed to all agreements would be just as foolish as welcoming any agreement for the sake of keeping the process going.

What is needed is an approach that is positive, but also coolly rational. Disarmament measures are in our

Europeans feel INF accord likely despite summit blow

From Richard Owen, The Hague

As the foreign and defence ministers of the seven-nation Western European Union gathered here yesterday for the first day of a two-day meeting on the future of European defence, some European officials said they feared that superpower differences over the US Star Wars programme could put at risk potential arms agreements in other areas.

But most officials said they believed a deal on intermediate nuclear forces (INF) — the agreement that affects Europe most directly — would be struck despite Mr Mikhail Gorbachev's surprise decision to back away from a summit meeting with Mr Reagan. Sir Geoffrey Howe said it was up to Mr Gorbachev to remove "obstacles of his own making".

The European grouping, little known until recently, has come into focus as the forum for European defence at a time when the superpowers are negotiating deals that affect European interests directly. The union has also played a discreet role in co-ordinating European activities in the Gulf. The sweeping proposal aimed at last year's Reykjavik summit shocked Europeans and persuaded many that Europe should have its own voice in defence matters.

The grouping was formed in the 1950s but remained largely moribund until recent events gave it fresh impetus. It groups together Britain, France, West Germany, Italy and the Benelux nations.

The current meeting, chaired by the Dutch, is seen as an opportunity to analyse

further the motives behind Mr Gorbachev's actions. In Brussels at the weekend, Mr George Shultz, the American Secretary of State, briefed NATO on his Moscow talks and assured European Foreign Ministers that he had found the Soviet leader vigorous and in control.

This reinforced the view, shared by France, that Mr Gorbachev has taken a last-minute gamble to bring concessions from Washington over Star Wars, or Strategic Defence Initiative, and in doing so may have miscalculated. Others, however, including British and German officials, tend to the view that Mr Gorbachev is being obstructed by rivals.

Yesterday the ministers put the final touches to a Charter for European Defence. This has in the past alarmed the United States, which fears that a more powerful WEU could take a European stand distinct from that of Washington.

Behind the immediate issue of an INF deal, removing from Europe both cruise and Pershing 2 missiles and Soviet SS20s, lies the broader question of whether recent bilateral defence links between Europe's Big Three — Britain, France and West Germany — should be given formal shape. Britain and France have moved toward closer consultation over their independent nuclear deterrents, while France and West Germany have held joint military manoeuvres. French leaders have hinted that the French *force de frappe* could protect West Germany.

Opponents of the guns-for-all crusade in America, of course, are appalled. But

Leading article, page 15

French fishing boats close Boulogne



French fishing boats blocking the port of Boulogne yesterday in a protest against a British move to ban them from some fishing grounds. The demonstration stopped sailings between Boulogne and England. Calais saw a similar protest.

Guns-for-all crusade prospers in US

From Charles Bremner, New York

It has been a good month for gun-owning in America. In Washington, the Justice Department has just been persuaded to drop its opposition to new, high-technology plastic guns, weapons which contain so little metal they cannot be detected.

And in Florida, people are flocking to gun shops after a new law allowed anyone without a criminal record to carry a concealed weapon.

Both the Florida law and the Washington decision were triumphs for the National Rifle Association (NRA), the hugely powerful gun lobby.

Opponents of the guns-for-all crusade in America, of course, are appalled. But

emotion, legend and a billion-dollar-a-year gun industry give the gun lobby the muscle it needs to maintain a ferocious defence of the Constitution's guarantee of the citizen's right to bear arms.

Mr Edwin Meese, the Attorney-General, withdrew the Justice Department's backing for legislation against plastic guns last week after a meeting with NRA officials.

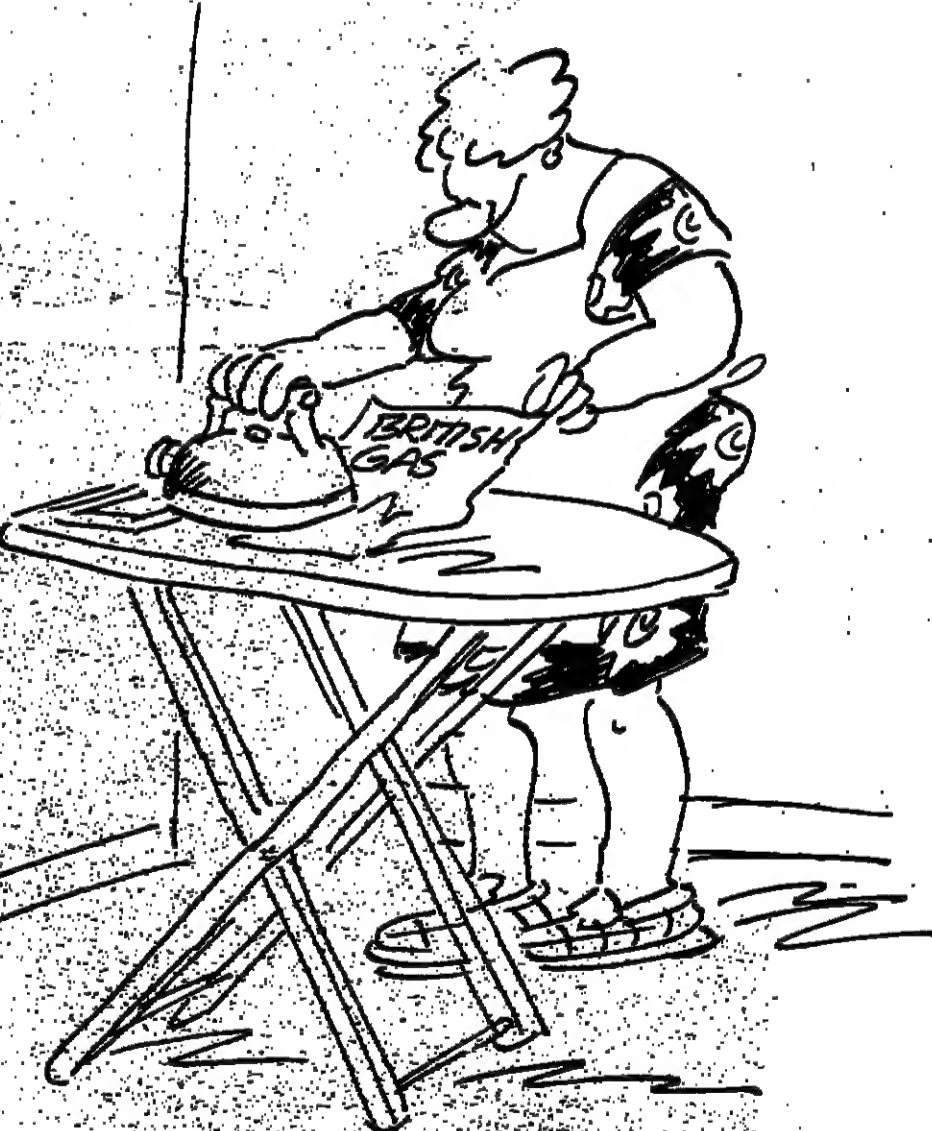
A Bill to outlaw the weapons, which could prove ideal for hijacking and assassination, is still before the Senate.

"If they don't stop these weapons, this will be a grave threat to our society," says Mrs Susan Whitmore, spokeswoman for

Handgun Control, a puny Washington lobby organization compared with the gunfingers of the NRA.

The Florida law, one of several recent moves by states to make gun-owning easier, is so extreme that it has hit the headlines with stories accompanied by pictures of old ladies trying on shoulder holsters.

The Florida legislators ignored the evidence from a few big cities which have imposed tighter gun curbs. In New York, for example, a 1980 law severely cut the number of gun licences. Police say this contributed to a heavy drop in the crime rate in the city.



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Lure of cash crops and loss of arable land undermine agricultural reforms in China

Peking pledges to tackle grain shortage

From Mary Dejevsky
Peking

China will become a net importer of grain this year for the second year running, and far-reaching changes are planned in the organization of land use in an attempt to combat the problem, a senior Chinese official said yesterday.

Mr Du Runsheng, who has played a leading role in China's agricultural reform programme and directs the rural policy research offices of the Communist Party and state Government, told journalists in Peking yesterday



13th PARTY CONGRESS

that China would need to import four to five million tonnes more than it would be exporting this year. As this is a net figure, total imports could be much higher.

The shortfall has arisen despite predictions that this year's grain harvest will be the second highest on record.

Mr Du suggested that one reason for the increased imports was the growing taste of the Chinese for beer and other alcoholic drinks.



Charting China's future: Mr Du Runsheng, left, seeking to improve grain production, and Mr Zhao Ziyang, right, helping to dispel rumours of a split in the leadership.

There are two other reasons, however, why grain production has failed to meet targets and keep pace with higher living standards in China. The problem for the leadership is that both are a direct result of the rural reform programme instituted in 1978.

The first is the preference of Chinese farmers, now they have a choice, to grow cash crops such as tangerines and

melons for sale on the free markets, because the profits are higher and more immediate. Farmers consequently fulfil only their minimum contractual obligations to the state for grain. While this could probably be remedied, albeit expensively, by increasing the state purchase prices, the second problem is less tractable and longer term. Despite having one quarter

of the world's population, China has only 7 per cent of its arable land. The gradual dismantling of collectivized agriculture over the past nine years has led to division of the best land into small areas, which are often unsuitable for growing grain.

It is not unusual in the south-west of the country, where the best land is to be found, for one family to have

Peking - As the congress went into its second day, the party paper, the *People's Daily*, published an article clearly designed to dispel rumours of discord among the elderly leaders. It recounted an informal meeting between Mr Deng Xiaoping, the paramount leader, and a group of senior officials.

They wished each other good health and exchanged impressions in advance of the opening of the congress. A prominently displayed photograph showed Mr Deng Xiaoping, aged 85, believed less enthusiastic about reforms.

The paper also printed a picture of the acting party leader, Mr Zhao Ziyang, shaking hands with Mr Hu Yaobang, who was removed from the general secretaryship in January. Mr Zhao is likely to be confirmed as party leader at the Central Committee meeting after the congress.

several small strips of land in different places. The result is that land is being divided into smaller and smaller parcels.

As peasants in the richer agricultural areas have increased their income, they have also started to extend their houses and build new ones, reducing the area of arable land still further. The Chinese leadership is now proposing to tax arable land

that is used for purposes other than agriculture.

But the greater problem is the fragmentation of arable land. The children leaving rural schools now and going to work on the land are the product of the baby boom during the Cultural Revolution. There is not enough land to go round; there is even less that is suitable for growing grain.

The solution proposed yesterday by Mr Du is to introduce a system whereby peasants can buy a lease for the use of land, according to its quality. The leases would be transferable, and the leaseholder would be able to charge the buyer in proportion to the sum he had invested in it.

The thinking behind the proposal is that peasants would own the right to utilize the land, without owning the land itself. The ideological distinction is important; in practice, the idea is likely to come as close to privatizing agricultural land as to be almost indistinguishable - except in so far as ownership is not in perpetuity.

If China's bill for grain imports is not to increase rapidly, however, the only alternative would appear to be a return to the collective. In some places, local party and government officials have already tried to re-collectivize land.

Trying to beat Russia at the glasnost game

From Our Own Correspondent, Peking

When the Chinese Communist Party opens its great ceremonial occasion, the first day of the party congress, to foreign journalists and fails to invite either foreign communists or diplomats based in Peking, the meaning is unambiguous - modern communications are now regarded as a more effective means of conveying the message than either "socialist internationalism" or "diplomatic channels".

The Russians came to this conclusion soon after Mr Mikhail Gorbachev took office two and a half years ago. It

The Chinese are well versed in the rhetorical arts

has taken the Chinese a little longer, but by starting with the highest sacrament party congress, or at least a fraction of it, they are beating the Russians at their own game. *Glasnost* has come to Peking, where it has transformed itself into *kaifeng* and, as the gnomish Chinese press spokesmen might say, they are essentially the same - but different.

So far as *glasnost* in trade and travel is concerned, the Russians have much to learn from the old men who rule China. But where information is concerned, which is the essence of *glasnost* if not of *kaifeng* (which means openness), the balance is finer. In the press, the Russians have the edge. While their news reporting is increasingly contemporary and their comment at times contentious, Chinese papers are still in the age of historical allegory, bald economic statistics - probably embellished - and ideological abstractions.

Their methods for dealing with journalists are similar. For the congress, the Chinese have gone out of their way to provide correspondents with the tools they think they need - telefax and facsimile machines, telephones, local and international - the official news agency, the single English language paper, a meeting room and limitless tea. And they are keeping them busy: as well as two congress sessions, they are holding briefings by senior party officials, at which questions are invited and sometimes answered, and offering interviews.

The Chinese have yet to learn, as the Russians already have, that any session over an hour is too long. But they have a natural courtesy and willingness to please that Soviet press officials are only slowly acquiring.

But, if the methods are similar, so are the ground rules: treat journalists well without washing all your dirty linen in public. Arouse their curiosity with talk of change and hints of news, but try not to leave too many clues about issues you would rather conceal.

In the fanfare surrounding the congress, much has been concealed. The unrest in Tibet and its aftermath have faded from the news bulletins for lack of information.

Tibet itself has been virtually sealed off. The number of tour groups has been reduced,

individual tourists are discouraged from going there and journalists are banned. Asked whether Tibet would be on the agenda for the party congress, the press spokesman said not, and added that congress delegates would not be answering questions about it either.

China's dissident intellectuals are silent to their own people. Mr Fang Lizhi, the Aukland university professor who defected student demonstrators last year, has moved home and is incommunicado. But he was able to give an outspoken interview, defending the Western concept of democracy, to the German magazine, *Der Spiegel*. Mr Wu Zhaogang, a leading playwright who was expelled from the party in August, has spoken, equally frankly, to the BBC. Others on the fringes of intellectual dissent may speak to foreigners, or to their peers, but their words and deeds go unreported in the Chinese media.

So comprehensive a management of information as the Chinese are achieving this week would be harder in the Soviet Union. Despite the far greater restrictions on travel, foreigners in the Soviet Union merge more readily into the crowd and Russians are becoming more ready to give opinions to strangers.

The Chinese are either too embarrassed or else their desire to please will prompt the answer they think you want to hear. They are well versed in the rhetorical arts of balance and periphrasis. When the official press spokesman, asked for the current inflation level in China, replies that "the money supply will be increased in line with rising prices", little information has changed hands.

The motivation for *glasnost* is quite the same. Both the

The words and deeds of dissidents go unreported

Soviet Union and China appear to have recognized that obsessive secrecy has given them a poor image. In the past, perhaps when they needed the Western world less, they found that the advantages of secrecy outweighed the disadvantages. Now, television and radio, air travel and tourism have made it less easy for governments to insulate whole countries.

There may also be a sense in which, seeing the comparative economic success of the West, they wish to try out a few of the other distinctive features of Western society - within bounds - to see if they will work.

But if this is what lies behind the "openness" phenomenon, then *glasnost* has a head start over *kaifeng*. The Soviet leadership is talking, at least, of "democratization", of giving people more information to involve them more in the political process. Even if these are just words, Moscow has acknowledged the sentiment. In China, *glasnost* is for outsiders. The headlong rush into *kaifeng*, however, may make China's *glasnost*, when it comes, worthier of the translation "openness" than the Soviet brand is now.

Troubled Tahiti

French force rises to 1,000 after riot

From Susan MacDonald, Paris

More than 1,000 troops and special riot police are now stationed on the French Polynesian island of Tahiti, where a night curfew and a state of emergency were declared after rioting hit the capital, Papeete, on Friday.

Papeete yesterday was reported to be calm, and shopkeepers and property owners in the centre of the capital are surveying the damage caused by the mob of about 500 people who set fire to buildings, looted shops and overturned cars.

M. Robert Pandrard, the French Minister for Security, said in Paris that, while the disturbances were serious, they would have no repercussions for French sovereignty.

The Minister for Overseas Territories, M. Bernard Pons, said the security forces had the situation under control, showing the French wish to minimize the rioting, which they see as a result of the dock strike and without political implications.

French gendarmerie on Tahiti, whose numbers have been boosted by several more squadrons in the last two days, are in charge of maintaining order, and a special detachment of 200 Foreign Legionnaires, flown in from Mururoa Atoll, is responsible for the port.

There have been several warnings over the past year that the considerable union unrest could erupt into social unrest. The troubles on Friday night started when riot police forced their way into the port at Papeete to dislodge striking dock-workers who had mounted a blockade.

As the Paris newspaper, *Le Monde*, has commented, the violence of the rioting is out of proportion to the reason for the strike - a dispute over how many dockers are required for unloading duties on the French nuclear testing atoll of Mururoa.

The French Socialist Party has blamed the rioting on the right-wing government's policy of favouring a privileged few in French Polynesia.

The dockers in Papeete have for some time formed the bastion of union unrest on Tahiti. A year ago, a strike of several weeks brought the port to a standstill. Social unrest was avoided then by church mediation, which has not been called for this time, and by not using force to break the strike.

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سكيا من الاميل

Despair stalks streets of Jaffna

From Michael Hamlyn, Jaffna

The ordeal of Jaffna's unhappy people is still not over. For the past fortnight, they have lived through the bitter battle between troops of the Indian peace-keeping force and guerrillas of the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam.

They have seen some of their homes destroyed, some of their friends and family members killed in shelling and shooting. They have been without electricity, food, water or adequate medical attention.

Even now, they are confined to refugee camps within their own city. They may not go home, for fear of booby-traps, or afraid that the Tigers among them may escape. They are frightened of the fierce-looking Sikhs and Gurkhas of the Indian forces who stand on every guard at street corners. They are hungry and they are sick.

"Fever has started, and we have a lot of diarrhoea," explained Dr Subramaniam, himself a refugee at the aptly named Church of Our Lady of Refuge. Miss Patmaswami Selvasayagan said: "Now the food we have is not adequate. We have only bread, and it is not enough for my old mother."

The Indian troops who have seized control of the town — though sporadic firing was still going on during my visit yesterday — are doing their best to move up emergency food supplies. Some 6,500 tons are on their way, and six civilian administrators are coming from India to help organize the distribution.

But as Major General A.S. Kalkat, the senior officer in the Jaffna peninsula, explained, the shortages of supplies are themselves being amplified by the Tigers. He said: "The LTTE blew up one of our supply trucks, even though it was marked as such. It was very inhuman of them. We lost our own soldiers, three of them. But that is not so important — what is important is to get succour, medical aid and assistance to the people."

Many of the people blame the Indians themselves for their suffering, accusing them of causing their wounds by indiscriminate shelling, or shooting innocent civilians. Stories of rape of Tamil girls are beginning to spread.

At the church, for example, several young people rushed up to us to tell us of a case of rape, which simply did not bear examination. An elderly man, much distressed, and terrified that the Indians would come and shoot him if he spoke to me, finally said that his daughter Dhanalakshmi, 30, an accountant, had gone home on Friday morning to salvage her jewellery. She had not returned.

He said: "Another lady

went to look for her, and found her dead on the floor. She had been shot through the temple." "Had she been molested?" "No." "Was her clothing disarranged?" "No." "Had she been raped then?" "No."

"Who had killed her?" "I don't know." "Might it have been the Tigers?" "No, only the Army was in that part of town at the time."

It was desperately sad — but it was not rape.

There was much shuffling and evasion from several people at my next question. "Do you want the Tigers back then to protect you from the Army?"

"No!" cried a woman from the back. "I am bold enough to say it out loud."

It was clear that Tigers' propaganda about Jaffna hospital was simply not true either. According to stories published by their propagandists in Sri Lanka and overseas, the hospital should have been in ruins. While it was plain in the streets around the hospital that the fighting there had been intense, the hospital itself was almost unmarked.

Patients, even those who believed themselves to have been wounded by Indian shells, were grateful for the medical attention they were receiving from Indian doctors.

"We are getting mixed reactions," said Brigadier Manjit Singh, a Sikh who is in charge of this sector of the town. "But what we have got to do is show them that we can look after them, and mean to do it."

The operation to take the town was still flickering on as he spoke. Clouds of smoke arose from palm-thatch huts set ablaze to improve observation. Dull explosions and distant rapid fire marked the section of town where two Indian columns still had not linked up.

But two Indian prisoners had been rescued from Nallur temple over to the east, and a vast cache of arms and ammunition recovered from a hide-out nearby. Brigadier J.S. Dhillon, another Sikh in charge of the eastern approaches to the town, declared: "They are not fighting now. They are running."

General Kalkat said: "This is only the beginning. Now we have to restore normal life to the town. Then we have to ensure that fair elections can be held." This way, the Indians can ensure that "this totalitarian group of terrorists" cannot subjugate Sri Lanka again.

The cost to the Indian forces has been high. Yesterday's casualty figures showed that they had suffered 12 officers and 155 others killed, 29 officers and 590 others wounded. They still have 38 men missing.



Indian soldiers manning a post at a clock tower in the centre of Jaffna yesterday. They claim to have captured most of the city, despite some pockets of resistance from Tamil fighters.

Vote on draft constitution

Koreans must forsake fishing for democracy

From Gavin Bell, Seoul

Having won their struggle for democracy, the people of South Korea will set a constitutional seal on their victory today — providing they do not go fishing instead.

A public holiday has been declared to allow more than 25 million voters to approve a draft constitution giving them the right, for the first time in 16 years, to choose their president by secret ballot. It also curtails the hitherto authoritarian powers of the chief executive, and strengthens those of Parliament and the judiciary.

The 130-article amendment is the first in the country's constitutional history to have been prepared in accord with rival political parties, and since it won almost unanimous approval in the National Assembly two weeks ago, one would expect its public endorsement to be a foregone conclusion.

However, Koreans work hard, and when they have a day off they like to go hiking and fishing in the mountains, which are especially attractive in late autumn.

The authorities are evidently concerned that many voters might take a "yes" verdict for granted and head for the hills. Hence newspapers, radio and television

stations, along with thousands of street posters, have been appealing to voters to fulfil their civic duty first.

Providing at least half of them do so, a simple majority will be sufficient to ensure the constitution is promulgated within a matter of days.

The other official concern is the possibility of unruly behaviour by radical students, who have been disrupting preliminary rallies for the presidential election scheduled for December. Two armed policemen will be on duty at each of the country's 13,634 polling stations to discourage any such conduct.

The essence of the historic document, which would have been unthinkable six months ago, is contained in Article 67, which declares: "The President shall be elected by universal, equal, direct and secret ballot by the people."

Other provisions allow the President to declare martial law in a national emergency, but empower the National Assembly to lift it when it wishes. Similarly, the Assembly may overrule presidential opposition to legislation, and the Supreme Court has the final say on the legality of any administrative decrees.

So far, so good. Unfortunately, the tidal wave of

disaffection which changed the course of Korean history last summer is now being weakened by an undertow of political rivalry.

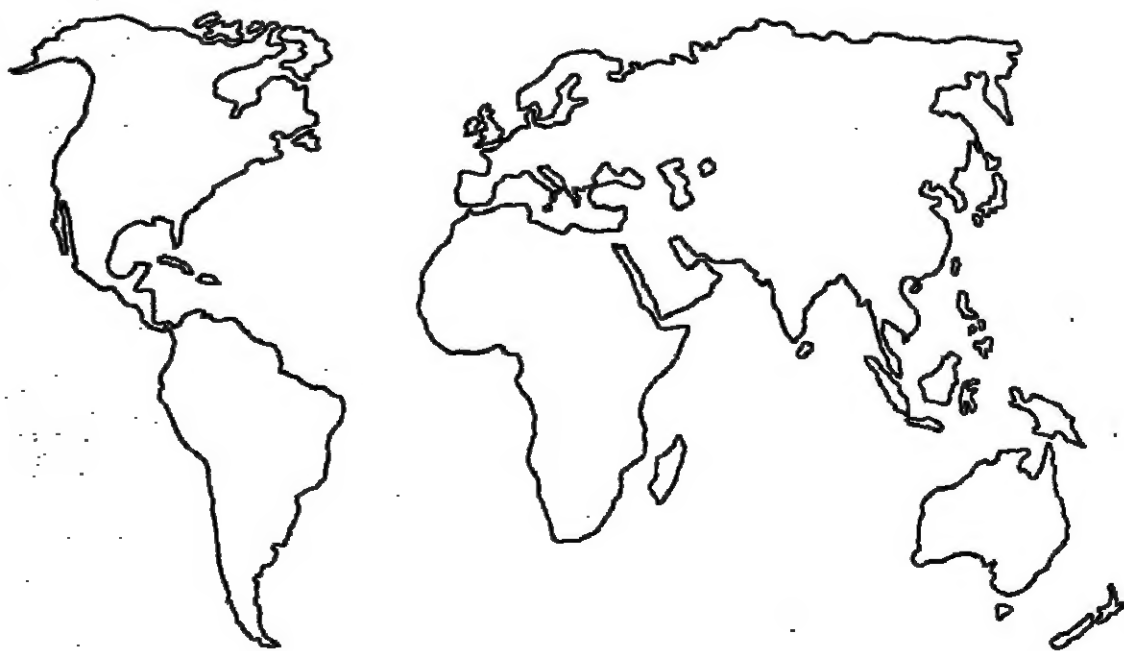
The shaky alliance of Mr Kim Dae Jung and Mr Kim Young Sam, the principal opposition leaders, is about to collapse, according to aides of the former.

Mr Kim Dae Jung, officially an adviser to Mr Kim Young Sam's Reunification Democratic Party, plans to formally announce his candidacy for the presidency tomorrow and to launch his own party next Wednesday, the aides said. Since Mr Kim Young Sam has already declared himself a candidate, the opposition will be effectively divided on who should herald in their new era of democracy.

● Campus swoop: A thousand police stormed Korea University in Seoul yesterday and arrested 26 students who participated in a huge anti-government rally at the campus on Sunday that ended in a battle with riot police, university officials said (Reuters reports).

After yesterday's arrests, 500 Korea University students demanding the immediate release of the 26 students clashed with riot police near the gates of the campus.

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Italy to prosecute arms ship owners

From Roger Boyes, Rome

The Italian authorities will charge the United Arab Shipping Company, whose vessel was found laden with British-made machine guns, with participating in illegal arms trafficking, the prosecutor said yesterday.

Signora Tiziana Parenti, the prosecutor of the northern port of Savona, told *The Times* that the "UASC is accused of associating with the sea captain in the illegal transit of weapons and spare parts". The ship, the Qatar-registered *Fatulkahir*, had been officially sequestered. "The ship was essential for the execution of the crime," said Signora Parenti. The remaining cargo will be unloaded, and the crew (presumably including the British first officer, Mr Richard Murphy) will be allowed to return home.

Information about the charges has been sent to several destinations, including the home government in Liverpool.

The fish captain, Mr John Scallan, aged 48, was presented to a crowded courtroom yesterday along with the 38 crew members. But the trial was immediately adjourned until tomorrow afternoon.

Mr Scallan's lawyers resigned because his testimony conflicted so seriously with

that of the company. The captain has argued throughout his interrogation that he knew nothing of the arms cargo. But the company says it was a legally registered shipment of guns to Abu Dhabi.

New lawyers have been found in Genoa, where Mr Scallan is being held in a maximum security prison, and they will use the time to become familiar with the brief. A request yesterday for Mr Scallan to be bailed was turned down.

The investigating magistrates emphasize that the new decision to prosecute the company is not related to the fate of Italian hostages in the Middle East. Pro-Iranian Kurds are holding three hostages, and say they will suffer if the arms shipment is allowed to continue to Iraq.

Italy appears now to be in the forefront of combating the flow of European arms traffic to the Gulf, though the legal framework for interfering with weapons cargoes is rather shaky. At the weekend, an Italian vessel, *Andrea Merzario*, was permitted to resume its journey to Saudi Arabia, but only after containers with French missile-launching ramps were unloaded and confiscated.

Fiji courts Russia and China in policy shift

Suva (center) — Fiji's military Government has decided to seek recognition from the Soviet Union, China and other Asian countries as part of a substantial shift in foreign policy.

A five-page document outlining the new policy was released yesterday. It said that Fiji should overcome its reliance on Australia and New Zealand by seeking aid and trade with South-east Asian countries, South Korea and Taiwan.

The document, prepared by Mr Felipe Bole, the Foreign Minister, expressed fears that Australia and New Zealand trade unions might impose further sanctions against Fiji. Trade unions in the two

countries have banned shipping trade with Fiji and Australian unions also have threatened to cut air links from November 1.

The document said that it was only a question of time before the Fijian republic gained universal recognition. "Once countries begin to understand, support or recognize the republic... there will come a point where quantity and time will influence those governments which are hostile to follow suit," it said.

The United States had indicated that the Fijian republic would be recognized if it maintained friendly ties with Washington, it added.

South African floods

Black feuds hold up relief work in Natal

From Michael Hornsby, Johannesburg

Politically motivated feuding between rival black groups is seriously hampering relief work in the province of Natal, devastated nearly a month ago by the worst floods South Africa has experienced in more than a century.

Red Cross workers trying to distribute food parcels in black townships around Pietermaritzburg, the provincial capital, met so much violence they refused to return.

Meanwhile, relief agencies have not yet been able to assess the full scale of the task confronting them. "We still haven't reached all the affected areas," the regional director in Natal for Operation Hunger, Mrs Dot Collins, said yesterday. "In normal times we feed about 100,000 people daily in Natal. It is possible that this figure could rise by another 150,000 as a result of the floods."

Bodies are still being found, and the flood death toll is constantly being revised. It currently stands at 320, nearly all of the victims being blacks or Indians. Another 163 people are missing, many of them feared dead.

The Government's official estimate of the number of homeless is about 56,000, but this is considered a very conservative figure. The University of Natal calculates that as many as 600,000 people may have lost their homes.

Shanty dwellers in the Durban area were the main victims of the raging floods which carried their flimsy shelters away in their thousands. The floods also destroyed at least six major bridges, washed

away roads, railway tracks and telephone lines, devastated crops and severely damaged factories. The total insurance claims are put at 500 million rands (£150 million).

● **Peace call:** A leading black newspaper yesterday called on Archbishop Desmond Tutu, the head of the Anglican Church in southern Africa, to act as a peacemaker between the feuding factions in Natal. In the past month more

Johannesburg — South African Airways said yesterday that it had discontinued direct flights to Australia as a result of the termination of its landing rights (Reuter reports). The suspension came into effect yesterday as part of Australia's limited economic sanctions to try to force Pretoria to abandon apartheid.

than 50 people have died in what is seen as a power struggle between the conservative Zulu movement, Inkatha, led by Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi, and the United Democratic Front (UDF), a loose alliance of militant anti-apartheid groups.

In an editorial comment and accompanying article, *The Sowetan*, a Johannesburg-based daily paper written mainly by and for blacks, declared that a "Terry Waite-style peace envoy" was now the only way to stop the increasing violence in black townships around Pietermaritzburg.

"It is going to be very difficult now that revenge has become the nature of the fight

Revenge that involves infanticide is as ugly as it is barbarous. We are making the job for the enemies of the black struggle very easy. We are making the job for those fighting for our liberation impossible," the paper said.

Its reference to "infanticide" recalled the beheading last week of Skumbuzi Shezi, a boy aged 10, by a group of men armed with knives and axes, apparently for no better reason than that his parents, or other older relatives, were suspected of supporting the UDF.

Five more deaths were reported at the weekend in the continuing violence which the deployment of a special police unit, with helicopter support, has failed to control. All eight of the incidents of "unrest" reported by the police on Sunday night related to the Pietermaritzburg area.

The UDF-Inkatha feuding has been particularly intense since an incident about a month ago when 13 members of Inkatha's Youth Brigade were killed when gunmen set fire to a house in the hillside black settlement of KwaShangwe and then shot and axed the occupants as they tried to flee.

Natal and the KwaZulu tribal areas within the province were for many years the unchallenged domain of Chief Buthelezi's well-drilled Inkatha organization. Since its formation in 1983, however, the UDF, which shares the political aims of the outlawed African National Congress, has established a growing presence in the province.



Mr John Demjanjuk, who is accused of war crimes at the Treblinka death camp, smiling from the dock in the Jerusalem court yesterday as his trial was resumed after a two-month recess caused by the illness of one of the judges.

War crimes trial hears KGB evidence

The Soviet secret police, the KGB, sends New Year cards to prominent persons in the West so that it can use the signatures on the replies for forgeries, a former Soviet agent told a court here yesterday.

The witness, Mr Avraham Shifrin, was testifying in the trial of Mr John Demjanjuk, accused of Nazi war crimes, which resumed here yesterday after a two-month recess. He was called by the defence as an expert on KGB forgery methods, to challenge the authenticity of an SS identity card which the prosecution claims was issued to Mr Demjanjuk at a training base for Nazi death camp personnel.

Mr Shifrin said the KGB would not hesitate to forge the signatures of President Reagan or Mrs Thatcher. The

organization had huge archives of documents and vast stores of materials for use in their forgery operations.

Mr Shifrin, aged 64, said he had been recruited by the KGB while serving as a state prosecutor. He helped compile false charges against Soviet citizens who had escaped to the West in order to discredit them or request their extradition. In 1953 he was convicted of spying for Israel and the US and was given a death sentence, later commuted to life imprisonment. In 1970 he was allowed to go to Israel. He has produced several books and films on the subject of the KGB.

At the beginning of yesterday's hearing the prosecutor, Mr Yonah Blatman, objected to the defence's calling of a witness who could not testify specifically

about the document before the court. Mr Shifrin was eventually allowed to testify only on selected issues.

The defence is contending that the SS identity card was forged by the Soviet Union to discredit Ukrainians living overseas. Mr Demjanjuk emigrated to the United States after the war and was being "Ivan the Terrible", a brutal guard in charge of the gas chambers at the Treblinka death camp.

Mr Shifrin resumes his testimony today. After yesterday's session, he said that he saw himself more as an expert witness than as defending Mr Demjanjuk. He also said that as a lawyer he was dismayed at not being allowed to describe in detail the KGB operations.

Anger as radiation victims are buried

From Mac Margolis, Rio de Janeiro

Lead-lined coffins containing two radiation poisoning victims, who died more than a month after being exposed to the core of a cancer therapy machine, were flown from Rio de Janeiro to the capital Brazilian city of Goiânia for burial yesterday afternoon.

The funeral was going ahead despite angry protests from residents. Dozens of townspeople who have maintained a graveside vigil said they feared further contamination by the irradiated corpses and demanded that the bodies be buried in an atomic waste deposit.

However, the authorities discounted a health threat, noting that each corpse was sealed in a 1,400 lb lead-lined coffin and the graves were walled with concrete. "We have taken all the necessary precautions," said Dr Marcos Cesar Ferreira Moreira of the National Commission on Nuclear Energy.

Senhora Maria Gabriela Ferreira, aged 37, and her niece, Leide das Neves Ferreira, aged 6, fell ill and died after being exposed to caesium 137. Eight others remain in critical condition in the Marcellino Dias naval hospital in Rio, and dozens of others are under observation in Goiânia.

The accident, the worst since Chernobyl, occurred late last month after two people stole part of a radiation machine in an abandoned medical clinic. Senhora Ferreira's husband, a scrapyard owner, paid £15 for the apparent pieces of lead scrap but the caesium spilled out.

Police are conducting an inquiry into the accident.

Battle for democracy

Lawyer fights for reform in Egypt

From Ian Murray, Cairo

Mr Kamal Khaled has two weapons. One is the pistol he always carries in the leather shoulder holster under his left arm to defend himself. The other is the well-thumbed copy of the Egyptian Constitution, on his cluttered lawyer's desk, that he keeps in his fight for Egyptian democracy.

He has never used the pistol, but he has been so effective with the Constitution that he has forced one general election already this year, and believes he is on the brink of having its result declared il-

legal. The consequence would be that President Mubarak's election this month for a second six-year term would be unconstitutional.

The Government does what it likes

The Administrative Court found in March that Mr Khaled was correct in arguing that the February general election was held in breach of Article 8 of the Constitution, which guarantees equal opportunity to all citizens. The court was satisfied that independent candidates were not given the same chances as those on party lists. The Constitutional Court is to give its definitive ruling on December 7.

Mr Khaled does not see himself as a revolutionary but as a conservative, and he looks the part. A short, portly man, he is now 56 and a long way removed from the young man who fought to chase Britain out of Egypt in 1950.

"Real stability is in respecting the courts and the judicial system," he argues. "When the court closes its doors it opens the way to violence. As it stands now, Egypt has no relationship to a democracy. The basis of democracy is to respect the Constitution and court decisions."

He decided to take on the present system when he found that the election rules prevented him standing as an

independent candidate. A lawyer who has specialized in defending underdog political prisoners, he says he wants a Parliamentary seat to give voice to the underprivileged. "I am one of the majority, but I am not silent," he says.

He argues the present proportional system of election through party lists allows the wealthy to buy themselves a safe place through a donation to party funds. The new independent seats, created to overcome his objection, are still available to party members.

"People no longer know who is representing them," he says. "As it stands now, they have lost confidence in the election and that is why they don't go to the polls." He claims that electoral fraud is wholesale and that no more than five per cent of the population votes properly.

The Government, he says, ignores the opposition and does precisely what it likes.

"That is why there is a rise in support for Islamic-backed candidates. People vote for

People are turning to vote for Islam

Islam where once they voted for national unity."

A former goalkeeper in the national hockey team, he says he now tries to stop extremism from scoring. He wants to see Islamic groups, which are illegal, allowed to campaign openly. "They are forced to live underground at the moment. Insects and snakes live underground. Suddenly they come out and are dangerous. That is what happened in Iran."

But he sees the danger of real trouble if his kind of true democracy is not established. That is why he believes true stability will only come if the Parliament is dismissed, the Government falls, and the President's election is declared unconstitutional.

Voodoo rebels killed

Kampala (AP) — Ugandan Government troops were reported on alert yesterday after killing about 100 hymn-singing followers of a voodoo priestess who staged a suicide attack on a strategic army base in eastern Uganda.

The government-owned *New Vision* newspaper also said 60 of the rebels, followers of Alice Lakwena's Holy Spirit Movement, were captured after the battle at the Maginaga army barracks 10 miles east of Jinja.

Five executed Britons held

Nicosia (AP) — Five Iranians convicted of drug smuggling have been executed in the holy city of Mashhad, according to a Tehran Radio report monitored in Cyprus.

Titanic gems

Paris (Reuters) — Jewelry, banknotes and coins from the Titanic will be seen on television today when the stricken liner's salvaged safe is opened.

Goria trip

Rome (Reuters) — The Italian Prime Minister, Signor Giovanni Goria, is to visit President Reagan in Washington on December 16.

£50bn is wiped off shares but BP sell-off goes ahead

Sliding shares tumble

CRASH

Shares in record plunge

Gloom for BP as share prices plummet again

Crash continues in day of wild trading

Shares slump

City wipes £50bn off shares

BP's recovery hopes fade

blackest hours

Yuppies aghast at end of boom

Shares DIVE

Shares slide again

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Anger as radiation victims are buried

From Mac Manus
Rio de Janeiro

Lead-lined coffins containing the bodies of radiation victims who died more than a year after being exposed to the core of a reactor in the city of Goiânia, Brazil, were buried yesterday afternoon.

The funeral was attended by angry protesters, some of whom have been arrested. They said they were protesting against the contamination by the reactor, and that the bodies should be buried in an open area.

However, the authorities insisted that each body be buried in a lead-lined coffin, and that the bodies be buried in a lead-lined coffin.

The bodies were buried in a lead-lined coffin, and the bodies were buried in a lead-lined coffin.

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SPECTRUM

Kiss of life on the waterfront



In 1979, a 23-year-old Mancunian fell in love with an old warehouse in London's docklands and

decided to turn it into a dream development. Last night he won The Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors/The Times Conservation Awards scheme. Caroline Moorehead reports

Andrew Wadsworth must bless the day eight years ago when he and his then girlfriend — now wife — decided to take a stroll east of London Bridge on a flat-hunting expedition. He had headed south from Manchester with a background in "nothing special and no qualifications", but a growing interest in the property business. What he had in mind was a flat overlooking the river, along the lines of a New York loft.

They walked around staring at what was then still a ghost town of abandoned, derelict buildings. "The concept of

"docklands" hadn't really been invented," Wadsworth explains. Then they came across a former grain store.

"It was absolutely empty except for one floor given to storing redundant Sixties computers," he says. "But it looked terrific." It was love at first sight.

His conversion of that listed Victorian warehouse, mill and water tower, just a few hundred yards downstream from Tower Bridge, became the cornerstone of Wadsworth's property empire and is one of the two first prizewinners of the 1987 Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors/The Times Conservation Awards.

The winner of the residential to non-residential category is a 12th-century stone house in King's Lynn, Norfolk, turned into a solicitor's office.

The 93 entries to this year's scheme, with the theme "A New Year Lease of Life", included a church, a fire station, an Edwardian school, a threshing barn, a jute and flax mill, and an old coaching inn. The greatest number came from the South-east and South-west of England.

How Wadsworth transformed New Concordia Wharf, winner of the non-residential to residential category, from a disused warehouse, derelict since the

closure of the docks in the mid-Sixties, into 60 flats, 20,000 sq ft of workshops, and studios, 3,000 sq ft of offices and a restaurant, is a developer's dream.

Wadsworth was then 23, with a couple of small conversions in Cheshire behind him but very little else. He did, however, have absolute determination and a stroke of enormous good fortune. His bank manager in Manchester happened to come from London's East End, and also happened to believe that the old warehouses lining the banks of the Thames deserved to be saved.

The owner of the grain store, after initial hesitation, agreed to sell Wadsworth the building for £500,000 — a modest sum in light of subsequent events, but at the time considered steep for something four separate chartered surveyors spoke of as having "negative value".

Backed by his bank manager, Wadsworth raised the money. In September 1980, the building was his. "I reckoned that at just under £5 a square foot, less than a mile from the City, I couldn't go wrong." Within a year he had pre-sold 12 "spaces" — flats developed as what he calls "shell finish" units, so that buyers could fit them out as they wanted. Long before completion, Wadsworth knew he was on to a winner.

The flats could each have been sold several times over and prices have soared. A flat bought at around £40,000, with £10,000 spent on it, now goes for at least £150,000. And with some justification: not only are the flats themselves extremely agreeable, but a great deal of imagination went into either restoring or copying the original quirks and features of the warehouse: cast iron brackets, loading doors and cranes are all again in place.

For Wadsworth, New Concordia Wharf marked only the beginning. This month, his firm, Jacobs Island Company, launched The Circle, a development of 300 flats in a new building by Tower Bridge. Many have already been pre-sold. The conversion of a Victorian pumping station in Rotherhithe is to be the next project.

Our second winner, numbers 28, 30, and 32 King Street, in King's Lynn, is today a solicitor's office; it is a financially more modest but

AWARD WINNERS

Non-residential to residential projects:

Second prize: United Kingdom Housing Trust, Glyn-Yr-Afon Sheltered Housing Complex, New Tredegar, Gwent. (A derelict Edwardian school converted into 27 self-contained flats for the elderly).

Joint third prize: Squire Associates, St Peter's Court, Victoria Road, Torry, Aberdeen. (A late 19th century church converted into sheltered housing for the elderly).

Coulson Swinburne & Partners, Brough Hall Stable Block, Catterick, North Yorkshire. (An 18th century open-square courtyard with stable buildings restored and made into seven self-contained houses).

Residential to non-residential projects:

Second prize: Michael Laird and Partners, Easter Elchies House, Craigellachie, Morayshire. (A late 17th century tower house above the Spey valley converted to a visitors' centre for the Macallan-Glenlivet distillery). No third prize.

The melting pot on the cliffs

Once the Welsh love nest of William Randolph Hearst, St Donat's Castle, high on the cliffs above the Glamorgan coastline, has for the last 25 years been the home of another, greater romantic ideal — Atlantic College.

Established with the intention of strengthening world peace through greater international understanding, its enthusiastic president is the Prince of Wales who — despite the similarities with Cordonsrouge, which he has possessed to have distilled intensely — will be joining in today's anniversary celebration.

Atlantic College celebrates its 25th anniversary today — but has the dream survived?

Founded by, among others, Kurt Hahn, Atlantic College's curriculum inevitably gives more than a nod towards Hahn's educational theory — that physical endeavour and community ser-

vice are the making of leaders as much as academic study. In its first quarter-century it has accepted students from 106 countries, including the Soviet Union, China, Iran, Iraq, Namibia and South Africa.

Atlantic College is the senior of six schools around the world — the others are in Swaziland, Singapore, Italy, Canada and the United States — which band together under the loose umbrella of United World Colleges. Whenever he goes in the world, Prince Charles always makes a point of meeting UWC old boys.

For Atlantic College alone, there are 6,000 applications a year for 180 places and educational qualifications are unashamedly high. Some 97 per cent of students go on to university.

The one thing that cannot buy a place is money: all students are on scholarships, and the college is constantly in search of sponsors to cover the £12,000 it costs for the two-year course.

No more than a quarter of the students at any one time are British, although almost all of those come from state schools after O-levels. It is a house rule that each four-bed dormitory must sleep four different nationalities.

The great majority of UWC graduates go on to political professions, chiefly medicine, engineering and teaching. Sir Ian Gourlay, director-general of UWC, finds that quite satisfactory. "What we are talking about is world peace through social change. You can do that just as effectively



Lessons for leaders: Kurt Hahn with president Prince Charles

as a primary school teacher as you can as Prime Minister.

"What we are trying to do is demonstrate to the rising generations their common humanity. We do not want them to lose their own culture; we want to build on an additional international point of view."

Sir Ian is prepared to admit the UWC has shortcomings. "We recognise that our weakness is our Western orientation; we would love to have colleges in socialist and Islamic countries. Our top priority is a college in India; being in a non-aligned country, it would draw in students from those non-Western parts of the world more easily than any of the present colleges." In

1985 Rajiv Gandhi promised to look at the possibility of setting up an Indian college; UWC are still waiting his answer.

Students obviously relish their two years at Atlantic College, even more so the 6am cold swim has been abandoned, although joining the lifeboat crew or the cadet rescue service (180 lives saved in 25 years) or a similar community service is still required.

Rita, a 17-year old student from Uganda, told me: "It is such an intense experience here, I sometimes worry at the rest of my life might be a bit of a let-down."

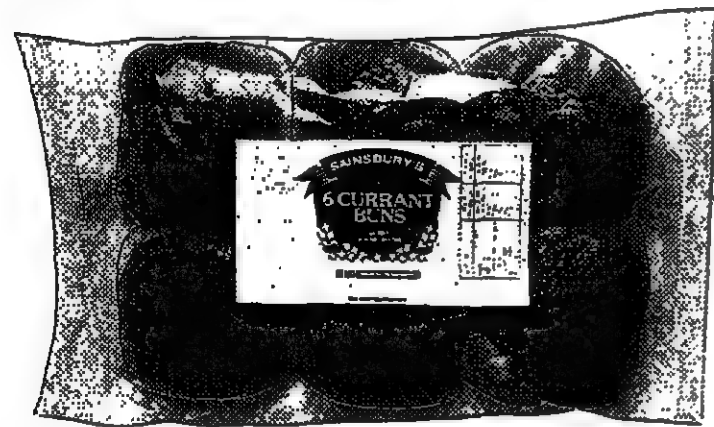
Alan Hamilton

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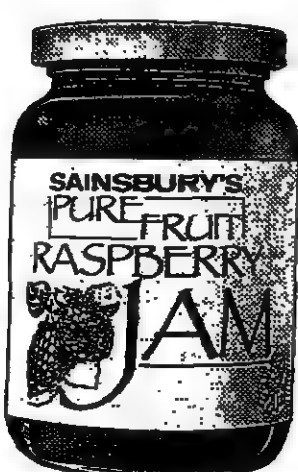
44p Sainsbury's Soya Margarine 500g



Sainsbury's Currant Buns x6 59p 53p



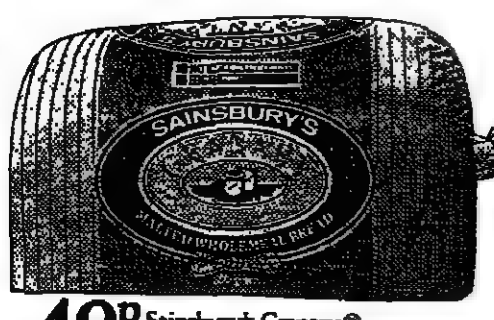
25p Sainsbury's Crumpets x8



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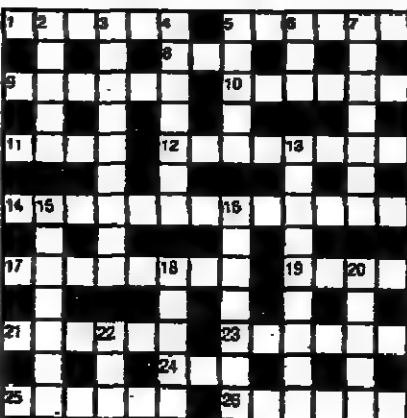
CONCISE CROSSWORD NO 1397

ACROSS
1 Obsessed (6)
5 Dublin Bay parmesan (6)
8 Churchyard tree (3)
9 Cured leam (6)
10 Cornet (6)
11 Boyfriend (4)
12 Clergyman (8)
14 Rigid Kent (5,5)
17 Driven together (8)
19 Compulsion (4)
21 Perplex (6)
23 Flowing fluid (6)
24 Age (3)
25 Determined (6)
26 Raptist (6)

DOWN
2 Speak pompously (5)
3 Cambridia (9)
4 Forefield (7)
5 Faint (5)
6 Everyone (3)

SOLUTION TO NO 1396

ACROSS: 1 Umbilic 5 Haze 8 Brunt 9 Radiant 11 Sediment 13 Horn 15 Spokes 18 Haze 19 Hannibal 22 Miniver 23 Ficks 24 Fern 25 Splash
DOWN: 2 Mould 3 Aft 4 Tyranomastus 5 Hods 6 Zulus 7 Abuse 10 Tug 12 Mope 14 Chin 15 Syringe 16 Whim 17 Blast 20 Buses 21 Even 23 Pal



7 Botched job (4,3)
13 Prevailing condition (6,3)
15 Low back pain (7)
16 Knotlike (7)
18 Berwick river (5)
20 Engaged dirt (5)
22 Thick mist (5)

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THE TIMES DIARY

Fighting on the wall

Conservationists are to campaign against plans to knock a hole through a 12th century Norman wall in Norwich Cathedral. The proposal to create an entrance to a new store room by drilling through blind arches has been condemned as "mutilation" by English Heritage. In a strongly worded objection, Heritage's Richard Halsey says the work would also adversely affect the external appearance. Philip Venning, secretary of the Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings, adds: "We are sympathetic to the cathedral's space problems but there must be a better solution." Yesterday architect Keith Darby insisted that the cathedral, which has no crypt, had been desperately short of space since the demolition of out-buildings at the Reformation; the watchdog Cathedral Advisory Commission has been persuaded that there is no alternative. The row highlights worries over ecclesiastical exemption from planning regulations: though Norwich planners consider the proposal next week they are unable to take into account the cathedral's listed building status.

Well qualified

Libya must surely take the biscuit for "Dear Kettle, yours Poi" diplomacy. The office Libyan news agency in London has just declared Libya an enemy of terrorism. "International terrorism is a threat to humanity. It prejudices confidence in international relations, spreads irritation and plants fear all over the world," it is announced. The Jena Jamahiriya, as Libya now styles itself, is so concerned that its man at the UN is calling for an international conference to distinguish terrorism from "the legitimate struggle of nations against all forms of oppression, colonialism, racism and foreign intervention." And there's the rub.

Rock star Roger Daltrey has a rumour in today's *Lester Piggott Final Handicap* at Nottingham, the scene of the disgraced jockey's last win two years ago. Its name: Giving It All Away.

Irony

The Duke of Wellington, the tale goes, was horrified to learn that cabinet ministers were not used to taking orders without question. After his first session with the cabinet when he became PM in 1828, he wrote to a relative: "I gave them their orders but they wanted to stay and discuss them." And who repeated the story yesterday? Peter Walker, the Welsh Secretary. Mind you, he quickly added that he was relieved we didn't have one like that today.



'I wish the same applied to Tony'

Kerb bawlers

Asin Mitchell, the genial Labour member for Grimsby, faced more agro than even an MP expects while in Colchester for the post-election forum at the weekend. The barrage of abuse came not from fellow delegates but from local residents. Arriving after midnight at his hotel on Friday, Mitchell parked his Fiat on a dotted yellow line. The following morning he discovered he had left it in a spot used on Saturdays by market traders. Not content with bouncing the offending vehicle on to the pavement, the coppers proceeded to comment loudly on this public menace. Mitchell, who assures me he saw no warning signs, left town soon after — with parking ticket — saying he does not expect to return in the near future.

Card sharp

I've heard of using a driving licence for identification to get through European immigration controls when you forget your passport, but I am intrigued by a reader's experience with a Harrods account card. Philip Barrow has twice used one to enter France from Belgium when he arrived without documents. But the white plastic card, which bears the name, address, signature and number of the holder, is being replaced by a green and gold computerized credit-card-style one. Barrow, who reports that negotiations took longer in Brussels than Paris, despite the fact that he arrived in France during last year's terrorist bomb attacks, mourns the change. "I have to say it was tough and got going back into Britain. In fact I now have a fail-safe system to remember my passport, but to destroy my old card would be like losing a trusted travelling companion." It was one solution to those go-slows at Petty France.

In The Times series on the Russian Revolution: Robert Conquest considers the hostility and despotism that endure to this day

Lenin's legacy: a world of danger

After 70 years we can perhaps get an historical perspective on the October Revolution. What is surprising is how little of that there has been. The reason may be that the Revolution was long seen as something new and astonishing, outside the conventional wisdom of our civilization — with its sympathizers hoping, and its opponents fearing, that it represented the future of the world. Even years later, the cream of sceptical American liberalism, Lincoln Steffens, was exclaiming: "I have been into the future and it works!" and the flower of British Socialist scholarship, Beatrice and Sidney Webb, were calling one of their books *Soviet Communism: A New Civilization*, dropping the question mark in the second edition.

But, on a broader view, the Bolsheviks were only new in the sense that nothing like them had been seen in the West for centuries; as soon as one considers them in the context of the millenarian sects of the past, the novelty disappears, and their attitudes appear, on the contrary, as positively primitive.

For example Norman Cohn, in his *The Pursuit of the Millennium*, writes of the apocalyptic revolutionary movements of the Middle Ages, which equally tried to establish the reign of the saints on earth after the destruction of the rich and powerful. We are "baffled", he says, by their 20th-century equivalents precisely because these features of an earlier phase of our culture are now forgotten. In fact, "for all their exploitation of modern technology" those of the 20th century "have been inspired by phantasies which are downright archaic".

The Bolsheviks, like their medieval predecessors, believed that they could produce "a state of total community, a society wholly unanimous in its beliefs and wholly free from inner conflicts". They too "claimed to be charged with the unique mission of bringing history to its preordained consummation". They too were "a restlessly dynamic and utterly ruthless group which, obsessed by the apocalyptic phantasy and filled with the conviction of its own infallibility, set itself infinitely above the rest of humanity and recognized no claims save that of its own supposed mission".

The formal content of the fantasies changed, using the most advanced vocabularies and dogmatics of their periods: a sort of theology in the 15th century, a sort of reason in the 18th, a sort of science in the 19th and 20th. Observers of the October Revolution were thus misled into applying to the Bolsheviks social and political analyses not designed to cope with the millenarian attitudes, to the confusion of many. Marx had argued that all pre-Marxist political leaders had in fact represented economic classes while believing themselves to be implementing religious or other ideas. But this lays itself open to the obvious retort that those who believe themselves to be representing the proletariat may in fact also really have fundamentally



'Fundamental change should be welcomed: a premature welcome will slow it down'

different motivations of which they are unconscious or only partly aware. In Orwell's view, though the real aim of the Bolsheviks was power, they "pretended, perhaps they even believed, that they had seized power unwillingly and for a short time, and that just around the corner there lay a paradise... We can be reasonably certain that Lenin did believe all this: he spent his time in hiding just before the October Revolution writing *State and Revolution*, a Utopian blueprint for a fairly speedy transition to full communism and the "withering away of the State".

The operative myth of the Leninists, of course, was (and still is) that not the poor and oppressed as such, but a new entity, the "proletariat", is the repository of virtue, and of a "proletarian consciousness" supposedly better than all other types. The actual call for revolution was in fact, as was admitted in the Central Committee, "received with bewilderment" by the masses, and was "not popular". Even those who did support it (including many Bolsheviks) did not want a Bolshevik one-party regime.

Unlike the hundreds of thou-

sands who had taken to the streets in the really popular February Revolution earlier in the year, only a few thousand well-organized soldiers and "Red Guards" were needed to seize the now derelict ship of state. Still, at least the latter were "proletarian". But poor sections of an urban population have often been won over to extreme sects — in ancient Alexandria, in modern Tehran. It is notable that the skilled working class, the railwaymen and printers, remained Menshevik.

When in power Lenin admitted from time to time that the "working class" was not ruling the country, but that the party was ruling "on their behalf". His practical perspective was expressed more clearly when he said that if a quarter of a million landlords and capitalists could rule Russia, then so could a quarter of a million communists.

From our point of view, what the new system lacked above all was any trace of the complex, plural, autonomous, interrelated, articulated elements which mark an advanced political culture. The beginnings of such an order had indeed started to emerge in backward Russia since the 1860s. After



Rodney Lord assesses the potential areas for change in the social security system

Welfare reform: the limited menu for Moore

Conservative election manifesto promised that it would "continue to be paid as now". However, if it were confined to those families eligible for family income supplement — which includes those in work but on low incomes — it would be possible to double the weekly payment of £7.25 and still save about £4 billion to apply in tax cuts or poverty relief.

How much "dependence" child benefit really creates is arguable — less perhaps than benefits paid only where they are urgently needed. It is argued that society as a whole has a responsibility for the next generation and the fact that child benefit is paid to mothers commands a good deal of support, not least among Tory women activists.

In spite of all this, child benefit is still the most blatant example of an administrative machine shuffling money from the right hand to the left. One way of targeting it more narrowly would be to continue paying the benefit to every mother as now, but, at higher income levels, retrieving it from the father's income. A more straightforward option would be to make the benefit taxable, though this would increase the

administrative merry-go-round further. Simplest of all would be not to raise the benefit in line with inflation so that its real value gradually withered away while further resources were targeted through family income supplement to those most in need.

Among the non-contributory benefits the other main opportunity for greater targeting is housing benefit — present cost about £3.5 billion. This already goes to about seven million households out of 20 million and the number is likely to increase as more lettings are made at decoupled rents. Options for containing the number who draw part of their housing costs from the state include setting a cash limit to the total amount which can be paid, a percentage limit, and regional variations. All have drawbacks.

With the contributory benefits such as the retirement pension, unemployment and invalidity benefits, the case for reform is rather different. These benefits do not work in the same way because they are paid only to those with a proper record of contributions. The government's aim has been to return decisions on the level of saving and insurance to the in-

dividual, and channel more of it through the private sector.

The obstacle is that, unlike occupational pensions, state pensions are "pay as you go". In other words, today's contributors are paying not for their own pensions but for today's pensioners. If employees were allowed to transfer to a private scheme, today's state pensions would still have to be paid. That means that any movement towards greater pension privatization must be relatively slow. The best the government is likely to be able to do is set aside the increasing income arising from greater prosperity for private saving, while continuing increases in the state pension to the rise in prices.

Unemployment and invalidity benefits could in principle gradually be privatized too. But there seems little justice in compounding the disadvantage of those most likely to be made redundant by raising the cost of their insurance against losing a job.

More targeting of social benefits makes a lot of sense. But if the aim really is to make sure that those in need get help then it has the disadvantage that take-up of income-related benefits is often quite low. People frequently do not know what they are entitled to, or are too proud to claim. Targeting could therefore increase pressure for the well-worn idea of a basic income guarantee payable through the tax system.

A tax-credit system of this kind contains a good deal of administrative logic. But such an overhaul is unlikely to be near the top of the government's priorities. With the poll tax, changes to the taxation of women and further income tax changes already in the pipeline, there is quite enough tax reform around to satisfy most political appetites.

Tony Blair

Exploding the market myth

Last Tuesday, in a government department that shall remain nameless, a group of ministers huddled together despondently, watching the collapse of share prices on television. "The trouble with markets," said one, "is that you can't control them." There was an embarrassed silence.

Yet it is a measure of the situation's gravity that the Chancellor of the Exchequer has felt compelled, if not to control the markets, at least to denounce them. "Grotesque over-reaction," "absurd," "not rational": in a few dismissive phrases he proclaimed the divorce of the stock exchanges from the real economy. President Reagan reassured us incredibly that the US economy was "sound", rather unfortunately repeating the word used by President Hoover in 1929.

In part, of course, pretending it is all the fault of the wicked market is "absurd" in itself. It is like saying that the victims crushed in a stampede from a cinema on fire owe their misfortune solely to the undisciplined rush for the door. The origins of the Crash of '87, as it is now called, lie in the mismanagement of the major economies of the West. The US has spent money borrowed from abroad on other countries' goods. It is in deficit; the others, notably West Germany and Japan, in huge surplus. It was a structural imbalance bound to lead, sooner or later, to disaster.

As has been recognized, almost as part of a new international consensus, there is no way back except through co-ordinated government intervention. A prescription considered only a short time ago out of date is today in peak demand.

However, the size and the speed of the markets' collapse sets the resolution of these problems in a context of great difficulty. Confidence will be low, provoking instability in foreign exchange markets. Furthermore, the consequences for the real economy are serious indeed. The collapse of the "free market" represents more than just an intellectual defeat for an article of right-wing faith.

The immediate impact is a massive deflation. The loss of almost \$2,000 billion in the value of assets reduces the capacity to borrow and thus to spend. So economies will grow more slowly. That is why the response, the world round, has been to loosen monetary conditions and cut the price of borrowing.

So although the market acted on a perception of real economic weakness, the manner in which it did so opens it up to legitimate inquiry. Computerized trading has been an obvious target of criticism. But while programmed selling no doubt affects the speed of the fall, it is ludicrous to describe it as the main cause.

More important, especially in the US, there has been heavy borrowing to finance growth on

the strength of rising asset values in the stock market. This feeds the market until the stock prices rise without regard to the true state of the company. A sudden collapse then leaves borrowers without either adequate collateral for their debt or means of repayment.

But there are reasons why the bubble burst, not why it was formed in the first place. To discover that, it is necessary to examine the nature of the modern market itself. In a recent article, written some weeks ago in *The Wall Street Journal*, Professor Peter Drucker of the Claremont Graduate School recalled the 1960s' predictions of a new economic phenomenon, "corporate capitalism" — autonomous managers wielding enormous power through a decreasing number of very large multinational firms.

In fact what we have instead, he argues, is "speculators' capitalism" — power in the hands of the major institutional investors, mainly pension funds. Their sole focus is the company's immediate earnings, hence next week's stock price. This pushes investment in search of the quickest return. Speculation becomes not simply an unhappy adjunct of dealing in company stocks; it becomes the end in itself. Ownership of shares is just having a stack of chips on the casino table.

It is this "speculators' capitalism" that is, in part, responsible for the stronger mania that swept the US and Britain last year. It adds up to a market no longer motivated, except obliquely, by real economic activity.

The corollary of the institutional investors' desire for instant profits is that the corporate managers feel pressure to deliver them. Long-term performance is sacrificed. The most notable example from the US is in the field of video cassette recorders. Although invented and developed in the US, not a single US company now produces them. To do so would have required years of investment before a return was shown.

The CBI recently published a report purporting to show that British industry does not feel constrained by City short-termism. It was a flawed document, produced by a study group that included virtually no small or medium-size business representatives. But, in fact, in the survey on which the report was based, 40 per cent of respondents did say the City was a major inhibition on long-term investment.

The foreign exchange markets are already, on Mrs Thatcher's admission, "95 per cent speculation". The image of the stock market is, after last week, irretrievably tarnished. Somehow, it seems unlikely that there will be many politicians seeking election over the next few years extolling the virtues of "the market". The agenda has at last changed.

The author is Labour MP for Sedgefield.

however... Henry Stanhope

A distinct lack of foresight

Those privileged to be present at a family gathering of the Forsytes have seen that charming and instructive sight — a family of middle-class yuppies in full plumage. In October 1987, about four of the afternoon, the observer who

chanced to be present at the house of old Jolyon in Millwall Docks might have seen them so assembled to celebrate the birthday of the Big Bang. In a bravery of Balloons, Gucci handbags and Middlessex accents, the family were all there — even Aunt Ann with her back and the dignity of her facelift, personifying the rigid possessiveness of them all.

They had done so well for themselves, these Forsytes, that they were all what is called "of a certain position". They had shares in all sorts of things, though not as yet in Consols, for they had no dread in life like that of only 3 per cent of their money.

In the centre of the room under the Habitat chandeliers stood the head of the family, old Jolyon himself, with his fine white toupee, his beady little eyes and dyed moustache. There were well-dressed lawyers and doctors, men from the Stock Exchange and all the innumerable avocations of the middle class in Mrs Thatcher's Britain. Aunt Ann knew all their secrets, their hang-ups, affairs, shady deals and impending divorces, whether they were making lots of money — all this was her property, her delight, her life.

"Well, Aunt Ann," said a voice behind her. Soames Forsyte, fat footed, looked downwards and aslant at her, as though trying to see through the side of his nose. Aunt Ann's eyes rested on him proudly. The eldest of the nephews, he was her favourite, for she recognized him as a sure trustee of the family soul — which must soon slip beyond her keeping.

"I fear I bring bad news," he said. His voice was grave. "Are Consols going down?" "Worse. Much worse." He smiled grimly.

"You mean... Consols are going up?" "I have just come from my club," he said in reply. "We've got a bear now instead of a bull." The old lady, who had lived to see the Forsyte tree prosper and grow, the sap of life flowing through its branches until it

reached full growth at its appointed time under Nigel Lawson, surveyed him anxiously.

"Really dear? At your club? You don't feel perhaps that you've been overworking lately... or perhaps Irene..."

But Soames shook his head impatiently. "Millions have been lost from shares overnight."

He stopped suddenly, aware that they were not alone. "They tell me Jolyon's bought another development," said his father's voice close by. "Must have more money than he knows what to do with. Lucky beggar. Rotherhithe, they say."

The position of their houses was of vital importance to the Forsytes. Nor was this remarkable, since the whole spirit of their success was embodied therein, as prices in Docklands soared. There flashed through Soames's mind the prospect of an imminent move to Tooting. Poor old Jolyon...

"Quiet, please!" he called, above the flow of conversation and tinkling glasses in the silence which descended when he was conscious of a breeze ruffling the Laura Ashley curtains — and of his wife, the perfection of her silhouette outlined against the reproduction Adam fireplace and shelves of unread, imitation calf-bound books.

"I am sorry to have to tell you all," said Soames, struggling to keep the emotion from his voice. "But there has been a crash."

"Why God, not the Porsche," cried young Jolyon, rushing towards the window. But Soames raised a restraining hand.

"It is I fear, much worse than that," he said. "I'm afraid we have lost all our money."

The silence grew more intense, until it was almost tangible. There was a brief sob — from June, he thought — and somebody muttered "Good God". It was, he thought, an oddly inappropriate response.

"It was the computers," he went on. "They said 'sell' so we sold. We still," he added in a largely unsuccessful attempt at cheerfulness, "have a little in the Abbey National."

But he knew that the family had gathered for what their creator had called "one last proud pageant" before they fell. It was a saga that was ending — not with a whimper, but the Biggest Bang of all.



1 Pennington Street, London, E1 9XN Telephone: 01-481 4100

MRS THATCHER'S CHURCH

An interview recently given by the Prime Minister in the magazine *Women's Own* will again spark off the modern version of the church and state controversy. Mrs Thatcher said nothing very remarkable, certainly nothing which she has not been known to believe for a long time and she made no personal attacks on members of the episcopacy. What she did say was that the church was not giving the moral leadership which it should in matters of personal conduct.

It was no longer preaching clearly and unequivocally the Ten Commandments or emphasizing the supreme importance of personal responsibility. Much of what she said will find an echo in the hearts of many Anglican lay people; but the question remains "should she have said it?"

It does not permit of a simple answer. Mr Macmillan once said that morals were matters that he should leave to the Bishops. Mrs Thatcher would certainly agree with him, provided, of course, that the Bishops concerned themselves with morals. Her complaint is precisely that they do not. It is, up to a point, an extravagant complaint. The church is not there simply to denounce human wickedness. It is there to save souls and it has to operate now against the background of a largely hostile culture. Bishops who say that married people ought to be ready to forgive each other for adultery are too often misrepresented as approving of adultery. Bishops who say that an inclination towards homosexuality is not in itself a sin but something which calls for compassionate counsel are too often stigmatized as defenders of homosexuality. Nevertheless, the general burden of Mrs Thatcher's charge is justified. Before the church can start proclaiming the forgiveness of sins, it must define what sin is, and to this task it now brings conspicuously little zeal. What is more, its preoccupation with "the social gospel" leads it to neglect the importance of personal responsibility, to fluninate against classes and attitudes rather than to address men and women to their own particular duties.

Yet, what is to be done about it? There is

very little to be said for encouraging politicians to take up the role of priests and prophets. Politicians are concerned with keeping society going, with introducing laws which express whatever moral consensus exists. They are also inevitably in the business of compromise. If they start lecturing us about personal virtue we shall inevitably distrust them. Besides, if it were ever to come about, who would keep an eye on the moral behaviour of politicians — not their sexual habits, which are of relatively little importance, but the moral concern with which they address themselves to the stewardship of public power.

Mrs Thatcher, it must be again emphasized, would agree with all of that. It is exactly because she does not want the state to take over the task of moral instruction that she wants the church to perform that task more efficiently. Implicitly rebuking the Bishops, however, for their failures, and doing so in public, is rather like usurping their authority. It is also unlikely to do much good. It will embitter relations between church and state rather than cement them.

How can the dilemma be solved? Mr Macmillan had a far larger say in the appointment of Bishops to whom he was prepared to entrust moral issues than has Mrs Thatcher. It is arguable that the modest and judiciously exercised powers of patronage enjoyed by Prime Ministers in the past and the ultimate authority of Parliament over the liturgy helped to sustain, not a servile church, but a stable church and one far more concentrated on the defence of the fundamentals of its tradition. But that argument seems for the moment to have been lost.

Would it still not be possible, however, to regain some of the advantages of the old partnership? There was a time not so long ago when Prime Ministers (certainly Tory ones) used to have Archbishops and Bishops to dinner to exchange in private, and over good claret, their hopes and fears? Would not such private meetings be at least as useful a vehicle for prime ministerial anxieties as interviews, enlightening though this one undoubtedly was.

NO SUMMIT — NO MATTER

Mr Mikhail Gorbachev has shattered this year's American dream by refusing to attend a summit in Washington without first winning concessions on the Strategic Defence Initiative ("Star Wars"). But his decision is hardly a political disaster.

The growing assumption that the Soviet leader would at last set foot on American soil around Thanksgiving Day had been founded on two separate premises. One was that the likelihood of a European missile treaty, required a summit before Christmas at which the superpower leaders could shake hands on it and sign. The other was that Mr Gorbachev stood to gain as much from this politically as did President Reagan.

There is indeed an agreement in the offing. It was clear from Mr Shultz's visit to Moscow that only the small print now has to be written. This treaty, which would remove all Soviet and American intermediate-range nuclear forces (INF) from Europe within three years, is being sought by the Russians no less keenly than by anyone else. (It is primarily in Western Europe that doubts remain). The inference must be that Moscow, no less than Washington, would like to see the package agreed this year.

It does not require, however, that Mr Gorbachev should go to America to sign it. Washington was decided as a venue at the Geneva lakeside summit in 1985. But two years is a long time in international politics and a widely anticipated INF treaty which requires the Soviets to scrap more missiles than it does the Americans, is clearly seen as an inadequate take-home present. Speculation that the Soviets sprung a diplomatic trap, into which the Americans incautiously trod, is not necessarily true. It is equally likely that the Russian response is the consequence of political pressures in Moscow.

Does it matter if the Washington summit does not take place? The faith which politicians place in summits, is touching but misplaced.

A GOOD EUROPEAN

The Belgians, who are about to plunge into a general election on the perennial issue, resent the fact that foreigners' attention only turns to their country when it threatens to fall apart because of language. The good work being done for the Belgian economy by Mr Wilfried Martens, the highly capable Flemish Christian Democrat Prime Minister for the past eight years, has been interrupted by a combative, faintly absurd local mayor who refuses to prove that he can speak Flemish (which he can) as required by local government law.

This tiresome dignity has succeeded in stoking the flames of the linguistic dispute to the point where it has made unwelcome the coalition of French and Flemish-speaking Christian Democrats and Liberals. Anyone who has asked the way in French in a Flemish-speaking area of Belgium and met with a distinctly frosty response, or been puzzled by road signs reading "Mons-Bergen" and "Luik-Liege" will know the scale of the problem.

Belgium was parcelled out between Spain, Austria, France and the Netherlands before the national revolt of 1830 against the Dutch and the setting up of an independent Belgian kingdom under Leopold I. So from the very beginning the question of Belgian nationhood has been a puzzle to other Europeans. Flemish speakers took a full part in the anti-Dutch revolt. That they spoke Dutch took second place to Belgian nationalism — and to their Catholic religion. Belgium conquered the Congo with Dutch speakers who managed to swallow any resentment that the country was dominated by French language and culture.

But under the Nazi occupation some right-

wing Flemish nationalists collaborated with the Germans in the hope of uniting Belgium with the Netherlands. This collaboration tainted Flemish nationalism for many years after the war. By the 1960s, conflict between communities provoked violence and brought down governments. Various governments — including those of Mr Martens — have resorted to a kind of separate development in an effort to defuse community conflict: separate colleges and schools, ministers of education, hospitals.

Yet tensions persist. The Walloons resent new-found Flemish self-confidence, and the booming Flanders economy. The Flemings resent traditional French-speaking dominance of the professions and of the industrial and political elite. Britain and other European nations should support Mr Martens — or his eventual successor — in seeking to restore the national unity which caught fire in 1830 and survived for over a century. The Zebrugge disaster reminded Britons that, just across the North Sea, we have a warm, sympathetic and well disposed neighbour.

Belgium, with its rich heritage and cultural mix, is the archetypal European country, the home of the EEC and of Nato. The mayor, voicing the kind of extremist resentment which has never won significant support at the polls, said recently that this very cultural diversity was a mistake, that Wallonia and Flanders were "like fire and water", and that for him Belgium did not exist. Europeans should wish Mr Martens well in his efforts to find constitutional reforms which will thwart such a man.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Case for schools wanting to opt out

From the Rector of Witney
Sir, As a parish priest, I am dismayed at the chorus of disapproval from those who object to the proposal to allow schools to "opt out" of local authority control. I am even more dismayed when this chorus is joined by those who direct religious education on behalf of the Christian churches (report, October 21).

For some years governors of Church schools have been painfully aware of the increasing disapproval of local authorities to Church-aided schools. Often this disapproval is backed up by a less than supportive diocesan education authority.

The well thought-out proposals of the secretary of state would give Church-aided schools the opportunity once again to serve the Church and the local community, instead of being pawns in some great plan.

Perhaps the authorities would be content to allow the governing bodies and the parents to run the sort of schools that they think best, even if it means the decimation of some empires, whether they be local authority or diocesan.

As a school governor for more than 25 years, I warmly welcome Mr Baker's proposals and hope that they become law.
Yours faithfully,
ROLAND MEREDITH,
The Rectory,
43 Westover Close,
Witney, Oxford.
October 21.

From Mrs A. M. Alford
Sir, According to a report in today's edition of *The Times* (October 21), the Inner London Education Authority has received many letters from school govern-

ing bodies and others who wish to protest against the Government's plans to allow local authorities to opt out of ILEA but has not received any representations from those who support the Government's policy.

As a governor of a school in the City of Westminster I support the Government's proposals to allow local authorities in inner London to assume responsibility for education within their boundaries. I wrote to the ILEA on September 22, in response to the consultation papers which were distributed to governors, to register this view.

My impression is that the ILEA objects to the Government's proposals not out of concern for the teachers or pupils at schools in inner London but because of members' political opinions. Their apparent disregard for the views of those that oppose them would seem to uphold this opinion.

My particular interest in education as a governor of an ILEA school is the provision of a high-quality education system which encourages pupils to achieve good qualifications within the framework of a national curriculum. I would like to see more transfers between schools, more single-sex schools to meet the demand of Muslim and other religious groups, and more involvement by headteachers and school governors in the management of resources, both human and financial.

I do not believe that the Inner London Education Authority as presently constituted shares these objectives and the cult of the "entrepreneur", wilfully abandons the attempt to keep communications open with the European civilisation of the last two or three thousand years, it will be responsible for losing ground which is unlikely ever to be recovered. I heard the other day that Latin is no longer even an option in Dr Johnson's old school in Lichfield: I read now that the classics department at Aberdeen University is to be closed.

Mr Masie does well to remind us of the old meaning of Humanism. This is not the time for proponents of the principal arts subjects to fall out among themselves. We should rather join in warning an increasingly Philistine age that there are other things in life than the more immediately profitable aspects of science and technology.
Yours faithfully,
IAN JACK,
Fembroke College, Cambridge.

This led to the other subject of his address, the number of projects where the initial ideas and development had subsequently been handed over to other countries when funds ran out. Some 25 years later the project arrives in public view and within two years the objective seems to be to ensure that the UK involvement is minimized.

I am left wondering which half of the lecture was the more prophetic.
Yours faithfully,
C. W. MORREY,
4 Claremont Road,
Bickley,
Bromley, Kent.
October 22.

Future of Hotel

From Mr G. W. Morrey
Sir, In the early 1960s the then Baroness Wallis addressed the Science Society at Exeter College on the subject of aeronautical engineering. Much of his talk concerned the possibility of constructing a sub-orbital aircraft to fly to Australia, bearing a close resemblance to Hotel (horizontal take-off and landing aircraft). He even described the general principles of a high-altitude, air-breathing engine, but required a liquid-fuel rocket boost for the final lift. He stressed, however, that the project had to remain low key and be kept away from Government until it was ready.

UK role in space

From Mr Madron Seligman, MEP for Sussex West (European Democrat (Conservative))
Sir, The Government is right to insist on the principle that public money should not be lavished on space activities if industry itself is not prepared to come up with finance as well.

However, some commentators seem to have lost sight of the fact that the valuable industrial contracts generated by European Space Agency (ESA) projects are placed according to a formula which reflects the budgetary contributions made by each member-state government. Briefly, if one country puts a lot in, its industries get a lot out.

Since this formula is part of the ESA Convention, it is pointless to encourage British companies to go

for a larger share of ESA contracts than would be warranted by the UK's share of ESA budgets. Equally, there is small incentive for them to invest in the research and development needed to prepare for these non-existent contracts.

Clearly, the Government must weigh the relative advantages of cooperation with European and other international partners. In so doing, it will no doubt bear in mind that there is no true partnership without a fair exchange of technical know-how during the project, and that European cooperation has a considerably better track record in this respect than the USA.

Yours faithfully,
MADRON SELIGMAN,
Mickleage House, Nuthurst,
Nr Horsham, West Sussex.
October 18.

Oxford research deal

From Professor A. C. Rose-Innes
Sir, Oxford University, like all universities, is responding to pressure to obtain funding from industry for research, and its Department of Pharmacology is to be congratulated on its £2 million from E. K. Squibbs and Sons for a new research centre (report, October 16).

The company has, quite reasonably from its point of view, stipulated that the results of research should not be published until it has taken out patents, and the head of the university research group says that the strings attached are "not significant".

Nevertheless, this raises the question of to what extent should the basic principles of a university be subjugated to commercial demands.

The restriction on publication implies that the work in the new Oxford centre may not be freely discussed with visiting scientists or the latest results presented at conferences. But surely the prime purpose of a university is to disseminate knowledge, not to hide it?

Yours faithfully,
A. C. ROSE-INNES,
The Athenaeum,
Pall Mall, SW1.
October 16.

Return of the mini-skirt

From Lady Bellew
Sir, One can only wonder why fashion designers should suddenly change to cut their clientele by more than half by the simple expedient of designing clothes fit only to be worn by young and very slim and exceedingly brave women.

Surely it makes no sense to lift skirts far above the knee when so few women will be able to wear them without looking ridiculous.

Store buyers must be groaning as they wonder how to clothe their valuable older clients, and material manufacturers will suffer too. One can so easily forecast the slump that will follow this insane and utterly hideous 1987 "New Look".

Anyway, Ascot next summer should provide an hilarious spectacle but sadly neither a chic nor glamorous one.
Yours etc,
SWEN BELLEW,
Gurgage House,
Stow-on-the-Wold,
Gloucestershire.

'Thatcher' years

From Dr Martin Holmes
Sir, John Vincent (article, October 10) seriously underestimates the changes of the Thatcher years by down-playing the centrality of major economic reforms. To describe the privatisation of 40 per cent of industries nationalised over a 35-year period as marginal is to miss the significance of what is known as "Thatcherism".

The radicalism of economic policy since 1979 lies in the assault not only on nationalisation or Keynesian demand management but on an economic policy machine that was hitherto locked into a corporate state of institutionalised government intervention.

Keynesianism required incomes-policy intervention; that in turn brought the nation into economic policymaking through NEDC (National Economic Development Council) or "social contracts"; consequently a high level of nationalisation — or investment in existing public-sector enterprises — formed a central part of an industrial strategy aimed at "safeguarding" jobs at BL, the coalmines, steelworks and shipyards.

These policies formed the core of a consensus that stretched from the unions, through Whitehall, academia and the media to all the main political parties.

The dismantling of this corporate state has involved a massive shift to a more market-oriented economy of which the removal of the Scargill veto (cf 1972 and 1974) is the most radical manifestation. I remain, Sir, yours faithfully,
MARTIN HOLMES,
44 Park Town, Oxford.

Simplifying tax

From Mr R. N. Bowes
Sir, It is with some gloomy feelings that I observe the continuing debate over the correct way of taxing married couples. It is not just that it seems so difficult to resolve a position which is fundamentally insoluble, but that one feels any solution that is found will render even more complicated our existing tax system.

At every turn, we find that complication increases. We have capital gains tax that cannot in any way be calculated by an ordinary individual. We have a personal equity plan scheme of excellent intentions, but throttled by detailed regulations. We have, above all, a basic tax system which is constantly being tinkered with but never simplified.

In this, the Chancellor has my sympathy. He is dealing with a department expert in creating complication and then more jobs. It is perhaps unfortunate that, as with the welfare services and the National Health Service (two other sacred cows), the army of workers involved is by no means always in step with the overall philosophic direction of the current government nor of the majority of the electorate.

Regrettably, little or nothing has been done since the present Government was first elected in 1979 to simplify the tax system and we must sincerely hope that the Chancellor will find the necessary time and strength to achieve such simplification during the lifetime of the present Parliament. Otherwise, he is likely continually to be strangled by his own organisation.
I remain, Sir, your obedient servant,
R. N. BOWES,
Fairacre, Eton Green,
Godalming, Surrey.

Shuffling papers

From Mr George Dutton
Sir, Each morning my wife rumples and disorganizes my copy of *The Times* and removes the TV page spread. My efforts to reestablish the pages in shape and order were never successful 100 per cent.

Inspired by a member of my golf club who knows someone who stitches the centre with a sewing machine, I now staple the centre, top and bottom of the middle-page spread. The centre I find a little difficult and tend to staple the paper to my thumb. Has anyone a better idea?

At least my *Times* is now intact if not quite virgo.
Yours faithfully,
GEORGE DUTTON,
High Meadows, Playford,
Near Ipswich, Suffolk.
October 15.

From Mrs D. E. Hope
Sir, Men refuse to fall victims to the wilder flights of fancy of the fashion industry. Isn't it time women followed their example, and isn't it time fashion editors helped them to do so instead of indiscriminately promoting the patently absurd?
Yours faithfully,
D. E. HOPE,
31 St Lukes Road,
Cheltenham,
Gloucestershire.
October 22.

From Mr Hamish Lawlan
Sir, The wearers of mini-skirts in America must find it rather unpleasant to be poured over [sic] by investment analysts for clues to the prevailing mood of the stock market (report, early editions, October 20). But preferable, perhaps, to being pawed over.
Yours faithfully,
HAMISH LAWLAN,
West Cottage,
Hilton Shelds,
Corbridge,
Northumberland.
October 21.

ON THIS DAY

OCTOBER 27 1905

In 1885 William Booth (1829-1912) started the Christian Mission in Whitechapel, London; 15 years later the name was changed to the Salvation Army

"GENERAL" BOOTH IN THE CITY

PRESENTATION OF THE FREEDOM

An event, memorable even in the annals of a city which has witnessed so many memorable events, took place yesterday afternoon in the Guildhall. At a special Court of Common Council, presided over by the Lord Mayor, with all the imposing ceremony prescribed by long tradition, the freedom of the City of London was presented to "General" Booth, the founder and head of the Salvation Army, in recognition of "his earnest and conscientious exertions for the moral and social improvement of the necessitous classes..."

"General" Booth... delivered an address in reply. He said... The Salvation Army was now recognised to be what it professed to be — the friend of the homeless classes. (Cheers.) The army was valued because it trained and consecrated itself to the discharge of its duty to those sections of the population that were outside the pale of all ordinary religious, philanthropic, and official effort. Some 40 years ago he gave himself, his wife, and his children, and everything he possessed, to the service of the suffering crowds he saw around him. He resolved that their people should be his people and their God his God. The Salvation Army had followed the sacred injunction not to invite to feasts those who could return the invitation, and the City had acted on the same principle on this occasion, for the Salvation Army were very unlikely to ask the Corporation back. (Laughter.) Those whom the Salvation Army invited to their feasts were the criminal, the harlot, the drunkard, the pauper, and all those who were wretched and uncared for, who had neither home nor hope. During the Boer war, in one of the besieged towns, food became very scarce and relief had to be organized. The people met in the market place, and the distribution of food was left to the ministers of the different denominations. The Episcopal clergyman first invited those who belonged to his Church to go with him. Then the Wesleyan, the Congregational, and the Baptist ministers did the same. At last came the turn of the Salvation Army captain, who said, "All you clergies that don't belong to nobody, you follow me." (Cheers and laughter.)

The Salvation Army had gone down into the depths of this sea of misery and had given itself to the rescue of the wretches drowning there. The success of the army's work had won sympathy for it. There had been a great change in public feeling with regard to the army's methods. Those methods which once were scoffed at and scorned were now being adopted by others who wished to accomplish the same results. He would not say that the army always succeeded. That would be impossible in any real warfare. To strike meant to be struck back. But the records of the work which the army had done were very remarkable. They had reached the Godless, Christless crowds with a religion that was very simple. It was to worship and love God, to consecrate life to His service, and to do what could be done for one's neighbours. The army had done something to spread that religion, and by its means to help the starving poor and ameliorate their sufferings. If the Government would give to the army the sums spent by the State on ineptitudes the army would deal with all the drunkards in the kingdom. Some one had said that this ceremony would be a fitting crown to the close of his career. He cherished the hope that there were a few years still left to him, and that they were destined to be years of harder and more successful work than any that had gone before...



Cardiff Business Club
Mrs Susan E. Williams, Lord
Lieutenant of South Glamor-

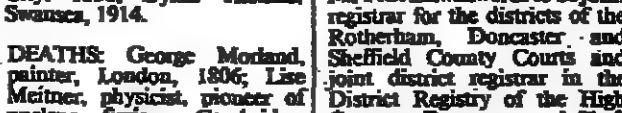
Dyers' Company
The following have been elected officers of the Dyers' Company for the ensuing year:
Prime Warden, Mr Robert Mervyn Stede Goodsall; Renters Warden, Dr Peter Riley Vernon Tomson.

The Bishop of Chelmsford, who also gave an address, and the Rev Raymond Jobling, Rector of St Andrew's, Little Glemham, officiated.

Mr. Patrick Cobbold (son), Mrs. Pamela Caddigan and Mrs. Roger Paul (daughters). Mr. and Mrs. David Paul, Miss Henrietta Paul, Miss Laverne Paul and Mr. Charles Hope Johnstone (grandchildren). Timothy and Thomas Hope Johnstone (great grandchildren) and Colonel E. E. Wampler, Chap.

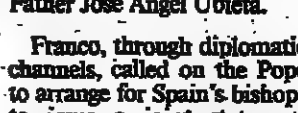
RATES

Midland Bank
Midland Bank plc, 27 Poultry, London EC2P 2BX



Basque priests on the grounds that he did not speak the language of the region.

However, on February 24,



Basque priests on the grounds that he did not speak the language of the region.

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Francisco Franco, through diplomatic channels, called on the Pope to arrange for Spain's bishop

In any case, the already fragile special relationship between Madrid and the

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FASHION by Liz Smith

A stretch towards perfection

**Jersey is a fabric
that appeals to all
the senses — a new
bridge spanning
old boundaries**

Designers are unable to resist the pull of it. Women are surrendering themselves happily to it. "It" stands for sex appeal in the fluid form of a fabric that is dramatically reshaping fashion's curves. It is lovable, stretchable, huggable jersey.

Designers have been exploring jersey's possibilities and technological advances in the textile industry have made it perform in new ways. A little Lycra knitted into wool or cotton means jersey keeps its shape and can be stretched and seamed more flamboyantly around the body.

It was Coco Chanel who pioneered what was looked on merely as the stuff of men's underwear as a fashion possibility in the 1920s. Using jersey, she introduced women to the comforts of sweater-dressing.

It is no coincidence that women designers have made the most significant design contributions in jersey. Sonia Rykiel revolutionized modern fashion with her use of jersey, unhemmed and with edges simply whipped around with overlocking for added fluidity and comfort.

Our own Jean Muir is most easily identified by the womanly cut of her silky jersey dresses, in demand on both sides of the Atlantic. New Yorker Donna-Karan landed recently on the fashion scene with the purity of her stretchy knit separates, based on her most famous invention of all: the body, in sleek, streamlining jersey.

Jersey is a fabric that appeals to all the senses. It has the cosy appeal of a favourite sweater that you might instinctively reach for and yet has the acceptable good looks of a dressier fabric. It crosses all those fashion boundaries between "casual" and "smart". It works on both counts. And it packs flat, shakes out looking - unruffled, and any wrinkles it may display are the ones you impose as you drape, twist and tie it into a fashionable style.

Nicole Farhi is a French-born designer known for her understated chic, recognizable in her own label collection as well as the less expensive French Connection line. Her new relaxation is sculpture, and her awareness of shapes and the body comes through in her designs. "I love working with Jersey in different weights, the heavier for fitted jackets and jodhpurs; the softer, sexier jersey for skirts and draped tops," she says.

Even Ralph Lauren, whose tailored style might seem to

limit him to cavalry twill and tweed, created the Prince of Wales jersey suit this winter and, as well as his famous sweaters, provides the alternative of close-to-the-body tops in finer cashmere jersey.

For each of the past six winters, Yves Saint-Laurent has polished his jersey tunic, reshaping it with a wider neckline possibly, softening the shoulder line, belting it or narrowing it for a longer, more streamlined look. In 1988, the jersey tunic

comes in brighter shades and is worn belted over a snappy little leather skirt.

Joe Casely-Hayford works in a heavy 260 gram suit-weight wool jersey for his more tailored cut on off

more tailored cut, an off-the-shoulder jacket and the tie-front style photographed here, as well as wide-legged pants and tapered trousers. "Jersey is essential for movement. It allows you to cut for comfort," he says. And for good looks, he thinks he's got it.

PEOPLE

Loulou: never at odds with Yves

Clothes become fashion only when a woman of style dresses in them, goes out on the town and makes them live. At the end of one day last week when fashion professionals had been divided in their passion for or against the Saint-Laurent show that morning, it was London de la Falsaise who settled the matter.

When she took her place in the front row of the Paris Opéra for the Oscars ceremony, dressed in a dazzling sequin-embroidered pierrot jacket over a black lace skirt, Yves's much-disputed harlequin fantasy became chic reality.

It was the way she wore his clothes way back in 1969, that first drew Loulou de la Falaise to Yves Saint-Laurent. Her relationship with him, first as friend and muse ("I used to waft into his studio and look at his sketches") has been formalized since 1972 to that of design assistant, one of seven at his Avenue Marceau headquarters. Her responsibilities are jewelry, hats and accessories but she is also, says Saint-Laurent's partner, Pierre Bergé, "his inspiration and contact with the world".

How is Saint-Laurent responding to the latest challenge in Paris fashion, most specifically from Lacroix? "Yves is very conscious of the competition today," Loulou says. "Fashion was not so fashionable in the Seventies. We were all more carefree. At Saint-Laurent, we love fantasy and creative ideas, but not fluffy clothes."

She adds: "Yves thinks nothing is better-looking than a man's raincoat, a turtle neck sweater and a black leather skirt worn with a lot of fancy jewels. For couture, he enjoys creating a whirlwind of satin that is sexy and extravagant. But ready-to-wear is closer to home for me. I enjoy putting together a satin skirt with a simple shirt and an extravagant belt. I don't like just pulling a zip up my back."

Loulou had no design training; her chic is in-bred. Born in Sussex, she is the granddaughter of the painter Sir Oswald Birley. Her mother, the designer and cookery writer Maxine de la Falaise, worked at Paquin and Schianarelli.

Today, at 39, Loulou is ensconced in Paris with her husband, Thadée Klossowski, and their daughter, Anna Balladina, aged 2. She shows off a snapshot of her daughter. In it Anna Balladina is trying on Saint-Laurent jewellery. Yet another generation of *couturier styliste* is born.

Jewels in the crown

Author Leslie Field has assumed some legal notions in compiling her definitive dossier on the Queen's personal collection of jewels. Cartier, which is hosting a party for its launch this evening, has rustled up 300 diamonds to make a copy of the Queen's favourite, the Williamson diamond brooch, which Field to wear. An exhibition of photographs of Cartier jewellery in the Royal Family's private collection opens at 7.15 New Bond Street, WI, tomorrow and runs until October 31. Leslie Field's book *The Queen's Jewels: The Personal Collection of Elizabeth II*, is published by Weidenfeld & Nicholson, £18.

● Designers Jasper Conran, John Galiano and Alistair Blair all paid homage to their Japanese fashion idol, Rei Kawakubo, when they turned up for the opening of Browns' Comme des Garçons shop at 59 Brook Street, W1, on Friday night. All three are customers of Comme menswear on sale in the new shop.

Royal style

The Princess Royal has always seemed the perfect target customer for Jaeger clothes. Now that Jaeger has expanded its range to include more sporty separates and even sells grander evening dresses, practically every occasion in the hard-working Princess's busy schedule is catered for, bar a state banquet. She was there last week, as president of the British Knitting and Clothing Export Council, to visit Jaeger's revamped flagship store in Regent Street. As part of its new one-stop shopping philosophy, the store offers jewellery from Butler & Wilson (a favourite of the Princess of Wales).

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BOOKING KEY

* Seated only
* Returns only
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THEATRE

LONDON

★ **ALLO, ALLO:** Return of last year's stage version of the TV show. Prince of Wales Theatre, Coventry Street W1 (01-535 5887). Tube: Piccadilly Circus. Mon-Thurs 8.10.20pm, Fri and Sat 8.10.11pm, £7.50-10.50, £5.50-7.50pm.

★ **BEYOND REASONABLE DOUBT:** Frank Finlay, Wendy Craig and others in Jeffrey Archer courtroom drama. Queen's Theatre, Shaftesbury Avenue W1 (01-734 1169). Tube: Piccadilly Circus. Mon-Fri 8.10.15pm, Sat 8.10.15pm and Sat 5.15pm, £5-15.50.

★ **BLUES IN THE NIGHT:** The hit blues show. Carol Welsch, Debby Bishop, Maria Friedman, Peter Sculthorpe, sing their hearts out in a sleazy Chicago hotel. Piccadilly Theatre, Denham Street, W1 (01-437 4503). Tube: Piccadilly Circus. Mon-Fri 8.10.15pm, Sat 8.10.15pm and Sat 5.15pm, £5-15.50.

★ **A COLLIER'S FRIDAY NIGHT:** Annette Crosbie, Alfred Lynch, Claire Hickson in a new comedy. Orange Tree Theatre, Keir Road, Richmond, Mon-Sat 8.10.15pm, £5-15.50.

★ **THE POLICE:** Sondheim's musical, in London at last, with Diana Riggs and Julia McKenzie leading a starry cast. Shaftesbury Theatre, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (01-579 5393). Tube: Holborn/Tottenham Court Road. Mon-Fri 8.10.15pm, Sat 8.10.15pm and Sat 5.15pm, £5-15.50.

★ **HIGH SOCIETY:** The show of the film. Staged with extra Cole Porter. Good performances. Victoria Palace Theatre, Victoria Street, SW1 (01-584 1317). Tube: Victoria. Mon-Fri 8.10.15pm, Sat 8.10.15pm and Sat 5.15pm, £5-15.50.

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★ **THREE MEN ON A HORSE:** Marvellously funny and friendly betting comedy. Geoffrey Hutchings and company joined by Tony Wilcock for the National Theatre transfer. Vaudeville Theatre, Strand, WC2 (01-836 5888). Tube: Charing Cross. Mon-Fri 8.10.15pm, Sat 8.10.15pm and Sat 5.15pm, £5-15.50.

★ **THE NYMPHOMANIAC:** Tom Courtenay heads Melville's classic comedy. Directed by Nancy Medler. Lyric Theatre, King Street W6 (01-741 2211). Tube: Hammersmith. Mon-Fri 8.10.15pm, Sat 8.10.15pm and Sat 5.15pm, £5-15.50.

★ **IT'S A GIRL:** Bush Theatre reopens after its fire with a new musical show on pregnancy and allied matters. Bush Theatre, Bush House, Shepherd's Bush Green, W12 (01-743 3388). Tube: Shepherd's Bush. Preview tonight and tomorrow 8pm, first night Oct 29, 7pm. Then Tue-Sun 7pm, £5.

★ **KISS ME KATE:** The RSC production of the Cole Porter musical, with Paul James and Nicola McAuliffe. Old Vic Theatre, Waterloo Road, SE1 (01-929 7016). Tube: Waterloo. Mon-Fri 8.10.15pm, Sat 8.10.15pm and Sat 5.15pm, £5-15.50.

★ **THE TROJANS AT CARPAGE:** Tim Albery's superb staging for Opera North of the second part of Berlioz's epic. Theatre Royal, Nottingham (0602 424544), 7.15-10.15pm, £5-15.50.

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★ **LETITIA AND LOVAGE:** New Peter Shaffer play starring Maggie Smith and Margaret Tyacke. Globe Theatre, Shaftesbury Avenue W1 (01-437 3867). Tube: Piccadilly Circus. First night tonight 7.30pm, then Mon-Sat 7.45-10.15pm, mats Sat 3-5.30pm, £7.50-15.50.

★ **THE LIFE OF NAPOLEON:** John Sessions's dazzling one-man show, with the additional voices of Oliver, Orson Welles, Frank Bruno and about 30 others. Transfer after sell-out run at Riverside. Albany Theatre, St Martin's Lane, WC2 (01-535 5887). Tube: Leicester Square. Preview tonight and tomorrow 8.10.30pm, first night Oct 29, 7.45-10.15pm, then Mon-Fri 8.10.15pm and Sat 8.10.15pm, mats Sat 3-5.30pm, £5-15.50.

★ **THE LIVING ROOM:** Major revival of Graham Greene's first play; cast includes Katherine Schellenger, Judy Campbell, Orla O'Keefe, Peter Byrne and Paul Demman. Royalty Theatre, Portugal Street WC2 (01-831 0680). Tube: Holborn/Tottenham Court Road. Mon-Sat 8.10.15pm, mats Wed 3pm and Sat 5pm, £5-15.50.

★ **A MAN FOR ALL SEASONS:** Clive Sullivan takes over the role of Sir Thomas More in the strongly cast transfer from Chichester. Savoy Theatre, Strand WC2 (01-836 8888). Tube: Charing Cross. Mon-Sat 7.30-10.15pm, mats Sat 3-5.30pm, £5-15.50.

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★ **THE NYMPHOMANIAC:** Tom Cour

Ghosts of the Commons look down on successors



The ghosts of 13 past parliamentarians look down on a packed House of Commons in a new portrait by June Mendoza, the first official portrait to be commissioned by the House since 1893.

Miss Mendoza, who spent 15 months on the painting, believes that their presence can still be felt in today's chamber.

In the gallery on the left are the figures of Aneurin Bevan, Oliver Cromwell, Clement Attlee, Joseph Chamberlain, Lloyd George, Charles Fox, John Wilkes, William Gladstone, Harold Macmillan, Winston Churchill, Pitt the Younger, John Fynn, and Benjamin Disraeli. All are as recognizable as more than 400 contemporary figures of MPs, officials and reporters in the Press Gallery.

Mr Patrick Cormack, MP, chairman of the steering group which organized the portrait, presented the painting formally to the Speaker, Mr Bernard Weatherill, yesterday.

The painting shows Mr Weatherill presiding at Question Time on an unspecified Tuesday or Thursday during July, 1986. The Prime Minister, Mrs Margaret Thatcher, is answering questions, with Mr Neil Kinnock, Leader of the Opposition, leaning forward eagerly to catch every word of her reply above the undoubted hubbub.

The exact date cannot be specified, indeed it is unlikely that all those depicted in the painting will have been present on any one occasion. The whole painting is the view from the main Speaker's Gallery.

It shows the Cabinet and shadow cabinet, the deputy speakers, leaders of all parties and MPs who first entered the House in 1970 or earlier, MPs elected by October 1974 who had said they would retire at the general election in June, designated whips of Government and Opposition, and any members of the House of Commons Commission, and chairmen of

select committees or their sub-committees. Other MPs portrayed were chosen by ballots of their respective parties.

The painting also shows notable parliamentarians who have died, such as Mr David Pughall and Mr John Silkin; or others who have left, such as Sir James Callaghan, who has gone to the House of Lords, and Mr Enoch Powell, who was defeated at the election. Mr John Biffen, Leader of the House at the time, is now on the back benches, like others in leading positions in the painting.

Miss Mendoza took several photographs of all her subjects so that she could paint them into their appropriate positions.

"On one occasion I ran out of film and had to go and get another while I left some MPs waiting. One of them was decidedly grumpy. "Adding the great parliamentarians of the

past was entirely my idea, but I cleared it with Mr Speaker. I hope the MPs of today will like the idea."

Miss Mendoza, whose work involved about 60 trips between Westminster and her attic studio in Wimbledon, confessed that some members of her family had been included among the "strangers" watching proceedings from one of the side galleries.

Mr Weatherill disclosed that one row of MPs had had to be repainted because one MP had not liked the MP depicted next to him. He added that the artist's tips were forever sealed about the identity of those MPs.

Some MPs disappointed at being left out of the official portrait are to be depicted in another portrait being organized by a committee of MPs. They will be seen at work and chatting in the Library of the House.

The cost of the painting is being met by sale of reproductions. (Photograph: The Bishop)

Plea for delay in BP sell-off

Continued from page 1

stump in the FTSE-100 index, that financial markets were displaying their well known tendency to overshoot.

"The electronic automation and globalization of the herd instinct is not an impressive sight."

"The fact that the United States suffers from its twin deficits and rapidly growing foreign indebtedness no doubt explains why the worldwide fall began on Wall Street."

"What is less readily explicable is why the London market should be following (and attempting to second-guess) Wall Street, quite so slavishly."

Mr Lawson said that the British economy was in its healthiest state since the war, and that present share price falls had to be seen in the context of a real tripling of prices in both London and New York over the past five years.

The Chancellor said that there was no reason why the stock markets falls should produce a world recession.

"What is not required in current world circumstances, however, is either a lurch into

protectionism or undue monetary tightening. It was this which, quite unnecessarily, turned the 1929 Wall Street crash into the depression of the 1930s," he said.

Mr Lawson said that, while this lesson had been learned, "it would certainly be helpful if the German monetary authorities were to show more obvious awareness of this."

A row between the US Treasury Secretary, Mr James Baker, and the German authorities sparked off the sharp falls in stock markets around the world.

Last week Mr Lawson criticised Mr Baker. But it is also clear that, following the half-point cut in base rates, in Britain on Friday, Mr Lawson feels that the German Bundesbank should be acting to cut interest rates.

Mr Lawson said that in spite of present stock market difficulties he still believed "profoundly in the market economy." He also said that the Government would press on with its policy of encouraging the small investor. He urged the City to do more to open its doors to small investors.

Man who steered straight through the eye of the storm



Lord Havers: his legal advice was always respected.

By Robin Oakley
Political Editor

There has been no time to judge the performance of Lord Havers, forced by indifferent health to leave as Lord Chancellor after four months.

However, as the longest-serving Attorney General since 1737, holding the post from the 1979 election until June, the former Sir Michael Havers was rarely far from the eye of the storm.

He was the man who had to prosecute those who leaked the Government's secrets, a task he undertook generally with the enthusiasm of an old-

fashioned clubman with a gut feeling that revealing secrets is letting down the side.

His legal advice was always in an Australian court on the Attorney General for initiating the *Spycatcher* affair. Sir Michael protested so vociferously that the Cabinet Secretary was forced to go back to court and withdraw.

Part of the difficulty was that Lord Havers was serving a Government and a Prime Minister who did not always understand the nature of his job as well as he did.

He threatened to have the police sent into Number 10

Downing Street if it was not done.

When Sir Robert Armstrong tried to pin the blame in an Australian court on the Attorney General for initiating the *Spycatcher* affair, Sir Michael protested so vociferously that the Cabinet Secretary was forced to go back to court and withdraw.

Part of the difficulty was that Lord Havers was serving a Government and a Prime Minister who did not always understand the nature of his job as well as he did.

He became a barrister in 1948 and in 1970 entered the

Commons as MP for Wimbledon. He became Attorney General when the Tories came to power in 1979.

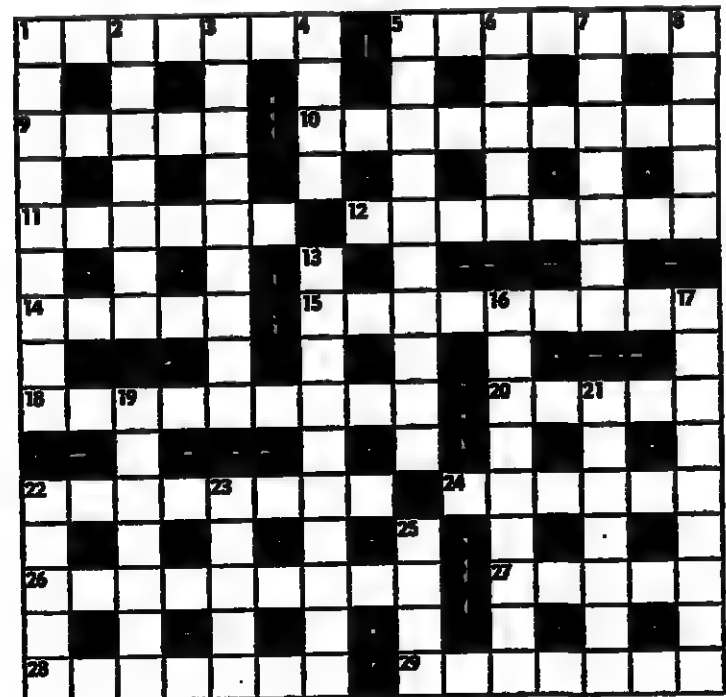
It was Lord Havers who prosecuted *Spycatcher*, the Foreign Office clerk who leaked a letter on cruise missiles in a case which helped to bring the workings of section 2 of the Official Secrets Act into disrepute.

It was his role too to intensify the damage with the unsuccessful prosecution of Clive Ponting, the Ministry of Defence Civil Servant who leaked details of the Belgrano affair.



Lord Mackay of Clashfern: the new Lord Chancellor

The Times Crossword Puzzle No 17,498



ACROSS

- 1 Fabulous creature Oberon heard riding on a dolphin (7).
- 5 Girl holds key to the English craft of wickerwork (7).
- 9 Lightweight woman first to perform on stage (5).
- 10 Soothing agency in new motel? Right (9).
- 11 Cheat by overcharging by half on beer (6).
- 12 Ninevite appearing in the role of Damascus? (8).
- 14 Steps taken in the rejection of 25 murals (5).
- 15 Salmon-spear outside church in this city (9).
- 18 Moderate Russian soldiers? An Arab chief arrested five (9).
- 20 Dress a river fish (5).
- 22 Sad tale of politician kept back by new boss (3-5).
- 24 Unusual, we note, for an oppidan (6).
- 26 In which one must always be properly dressed (9).
- 27 Expect a visitor at Christmas (5).
- 28 Commission unobtainable by Lothario (4-3).
- 29 White horse, possibly, causing damage (7).

DOWN

- 1 Realm most devastated by turbulent confusion (9).
- 2 Student is surrounded by lots of paper - it's true to nature (7).
- 3 Original manuscript sought from a celebrity, perhaps (9).
- 4 Pre-arranged contest of the French and the Spanish (4).
- 5 When single-handed, you can dine off these (10).
- 6 Mass meeting of everyone carried by trains (5).
- 7 He keeps medicinal items initially in a box (7).
- 8 Egyptian goddess with name for having scoffed (5).
- 13 Road junction provided for part of the plant (6-4).
- 16 Detailed work in America covered by 8, mostly (9).
- 17 Poet's version of *The Merry Saint* (9).
- 19 One pound raised in prison for the club (7).
- 21 Search thoroughly for smuggled wine (7).
- 22 A flight member's fixed gaze, by the sound of it (5).
- 23 Fuss about new painting (5).
- 25 Attempt to upset sportsmen (4).

Concise Crossword, page 12

WEATHER

A warm front over southern England will move north, while the cold front over northern England and Wales will weaken. Scotland and Northern Ireland will have a few early mist or fog patches tomorrow morning, soon clearing to leave sunny spells, though there may be quite a few showers in western areas, especially along the coast. Southern England will start cloudy with outbreaks of sometimes heavy rain. This will gradually spread to the rest of England and Wales. Mist and fog patches are likely at first, especially in central England. Outlook: Most of the country will be dry with sunny spells on Wednesday. Cloudy weather with outbreaks of rain in south-east England will spread to central and southern districts on Thursday.

ABROAD

Monday	T	C	F	W	Th	F	S
Algeria	12	24	75	18	21	70	18
Algeria	12	24	75	18	21	70	18
Algeria	12	24	75	18	21	70	18
Algeria	12	24	75	18	21	70	18
Algeria	12	24	75	18	21	70	18
Algeria	12	24	75	18	21	70	18
Algeria	12	24	75	18	21	70	18
Algeria	12	24	75	18	21	70	18
Algeria	12	24	75	18	21	70	18
Algeria	12	24	75	18	21	70	18

AROUND BRITAIN

Location	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat	Sun
London	12	18	24	18	21	70	18
London	12	18	24	18	21	70	18
London	12	18	24	18	21	70	18
London	12	18	24	18	21	70	18
London	12	18	24	18	21	70	18
London	12	18	24	18	21	70	18
London	12	18	24	18	21	70	18
London	12	18	24	18	21	70	18
London	12	18	24	18	21	70	18
London	12	18	24	18	21	70	18

HIGH TIDES

Location	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat	Sun
London	12	18	24	18	21	70	18
London	12	18	24	18	21	70	18
London	12	18	24	18	21	70	18
London	12	18	24	18	21	70	18
London	12	18	24	18	21	70	18
London	12	18	24	18	21	70	18
London	12	18	24	18	21	70	18
London	12	18	24	18	21	70	18
London	12	18	24	18	21	70	18
London	12	18	24	18	21	70	18

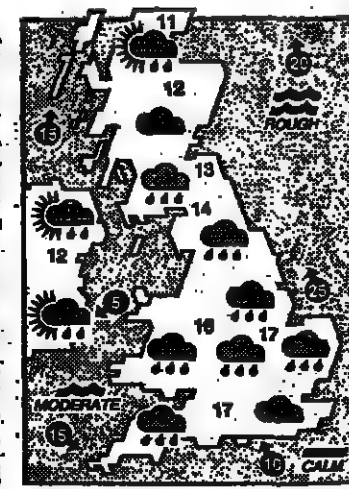
THE POUND

Location	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat	Sun
London	12	18	24	18	21	70	18
London	12	18	24	18	21	70	18
London	12	18	24	18	21	70	18
London	12	18	24	18	21	70	18
London	12	18	24	18	21	70	18
London	12	18	24	18	21	70	18
London	12	18	24	18	21	70	18
London	12	18	24	18	21	70	18
London	12	18	24	18	21	70	18
London	12	18	24	18	21	70	18

AM



PM



LIGHTING-UP TIME

London 5.14 pm to 6.16 am
Bristol 5.24 pm to 6.26 am
Edinburgh 5.15 pm to 6.40 am
Manchester 5.16 pm to 6.29 am
Penzance 5.00 pm to 6.24 am

LONDON

Yesterday: Temp: max 6 am to 6 pm, 12C (59F); min 6 pm to 6 am, 10C (50F). Wind: 6 pm, 30 per cent. Rain: 24 hr to 6 pm, trace Sun; 6 pm to 6 am, nil Sun; 6 am to 6 pm, 2.5hr.

YESTERDAY

Location	C	F	W	S
Belfast	11	52	11	52
Birmingham	11	52	11	52
Blackpool	11	52	11	52
Bristol	11	52	11	52
Cardiff	11	52	11	52
Edinburgh	11	52	11	52
Exeter	11	52	11	52
Glasgow	11	52	11	52

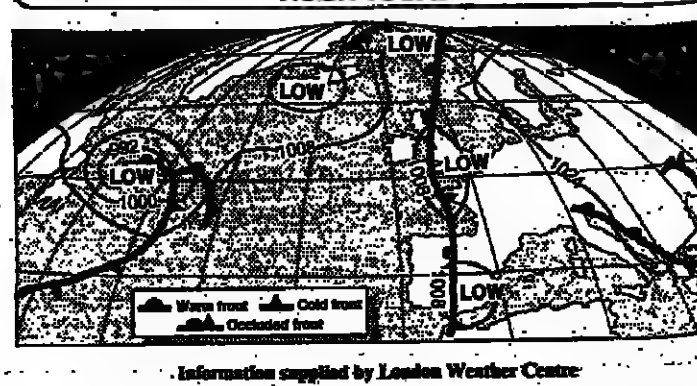
MANCHESTER

Location	C	F	W	S
Belfast	11	52	11	52
Birmingham	11	52	11	52
Blackpool	11	52	11	52
Bristol	11	52	11	52
Cardiff	11	52	11	52
Edinburgh	11	52	11	52
Exeter	11	52	11	52
Glasgow	11	52	11	52

HIGHEST & LOWEST

Shower: Highest day temp: Windsor, 14C (57F). Lowest day temp: Cape Wrath, Highland 9C (48F). Highest night temp: Datchet, 10C (50F). Lowest night temp: Brighton, 8C (46F). East: Sussex, 10C (50F). Cornwall, 9.2hr.

NOON TODAY



Information supplied by London Weather Centre

Executive Editor
Kenneth Fleet
STOCK MARKET

FT 30 Share
1307.1 (-89.7)
FT-SE 100
1684.1 (-111.1)
Bargains
57989 (74661)
USM (Datastream)
161.21 (-21.09)

THE POUND
US dollar
1.6880 (+0.0100)
W German mark
2.9962 (-0.0057)
Trade-weighted
74.1 (+0.6)

S&N wins the battle for Brown

Scottish & Newcastle Breweries has won control of Matthew Brown, the Blackburn brewer. Its £195 million bid went unconditional last night, with S&N claiming acceptance giving it more than 54 per cent of Matthew Brown.

The news came as a bitter disappointment to the Matthew Brown board, whose defence strategy was left in tatters by the slump in share prices over the past 10 days.

The 750p-a-share cash bid became an offer that holders could not refuse.

Lucas climbs

Lucas, the engineering group, reported annual pretax profits of £14.5 million to end-July, well above forecasts. The shares fell 27p to 499p. Fully diluted earnings per share rose 53p to 61.1p. *Temper, page 26*

£1m profits

Interim turnover at Underwoods, the London retail chemist chain, was up 27 per cent to £26 million, but pretax profits were a disappointing £1 million. *Temper, page 26*

Higher payout

McKee's, the plastics, metals and consumer products group, is raising the final dividend by 17 per cent to 8.3p a share, making 11.5p (10p), after achieving pretax profits of £27.6 million. *Temper, page 26*

SUMMARY

STOCK MARKETS

New York	1800.23 (-150.58)
Dow Jones	2202.56 (-109.2)
Nikkei Average	2241.69 (-120.70)
Hong Kong	225.3 (-17.5)
Amsterdam	1413.0 (-108.0)
Sydney	1568.2 (-87.5)
Frankfurt	4917.9 (-308.5)
Paris	318.8 (-30.7)
Zurich	463.70 (-79.5)
London	1307.1 (-89.7)
FT-SE 100	1684.1 (-111.1)
FT-SE 250	850.5 (-35.9)
FT-SE 1000	83.42 (+1.45)
FT-SE 10000	88.68 (+2.18)

MAIN PRICE CHANGES

FALLS:	
Midland	345p (-80p)
VPP Holdings	460p (-75p)
Standard Chart	465p (-75p)
ICI	1070p (-85p)
Williams	208p (-50p)
British Aerospace	245p (-54p)
Inchcape	530p (-57p)
Agar	320p (-70p)
Reuters	483p (-75p)
Matthew Brown	880p (-81p)
Reilly	510p (-50p)
Tyndal Holdings	155p (-60p)
Morgan Grenfell	270p (-75p)
Cable & Wireless	270p (-42p)
Roftware	185p (-25p)
Mersey Docks	280p (-50p)
OTT	283p (-52p)
Reid	695p (-85p)
Smith New Court	228p (+18p)
Irish Distillers	220p (+25p)

INTEREST RATES

London Bank Rate	9 1/4%
3-month interbank	9 1/4%
3-month bill	8 1/4%
US Prime Rate	9%
Federal Funds	7 1/4%
3-month Treasury	5.05-5.09%
30-year bonds	8 1/2%

CURRENCIES

London	New York
£/\$	1.6880
£/DM	2.9962
£/Sfr	2.771
£/FF	10.0436
£/Yen	239.95
£/Ind	74.1
£/SDR	1.6880

GOLD

London	474.85
New York	475.00
Paris	475.50
Zurich	476.50
Frankfurt	476.50
Amsterdam	476.50
Sydney	476.50
Stock Market	26
Temper	26
Wall Street	26
City Diary	27
Comment	27
Base Summary	27
Co News	28

NORTH SEA OIL

Brent (Dec) 1 pm \$18.90 bid (\$19.08)
* Denotes latest trading price

Big Bang anniversary: a year of revolution and growth



Sir Nicholas: 'optimistic about wider share ownership'

The events of the past 10 days have cast a shadow over the anniversary of Big Bang, but they should not blind us to the great improvements made to the London stock market which will remain long after last week's events have passed into the history books.

It has been a year of revolution and growth on London's stock market. In 12 months, our Exchange became the first major exchange to transfer its trading in equities and government bonds from a physical floor to an electronic display and telephone dealing network; and it became the world's first truly international exchange.

London has resumed its traditional role as a centre for international securities trading. That is an historic development, true to the international tradition of this nation and this City. The barriers between national securities markets are being progressively dismantled. Our exchange had the am-

member firms are owned by non-British houses. A majority of the members of its governing Council are employed by non-British houses. Trade in non-British equities done on the Exchange is already 50 per cent of the trade in British equities, and there are more market-makers in non-British than in British equities. There is no other major exchange in the world that can quote parallel figures.

London has long been the world's foremost centre for international banking, foreign exchange dealing and the Eurobond market. The factors that gave it pre-eminence in these fields will ensure that more companies will see their shares traded more heavily on our exchange than on any other, apart from their own national exchange. More international companies will raise equity capital through London. More international

investors will invest in equity capital through London.

The application of new technology has played a key role in our pursuit of this goal. Our systems for displaying prices in equities and gilts - SEAO (Stock Exchange Automatic Quotations) on the domestic front and SEAO International for overseas stocks - have demonstrated their worth. During the market swings last week, they proved robust and coped with a record number of price changes which on one day even exceeded their planned capacity.

We have created a visible, competitive and accessible market in which it is possible to make large deals. As a result, more business - and more jobs - has been created in London as our new systems and expanding marketplace have attracted investors from across the world. London's turnover in some overseas stocks via SEAO International now equals or exceeds the turnover in these stocks in their home markets. This has not been to the detriment of trade in those markets: we believe that our presence has focused attention on those stocks and markets and increased the overall level of business.

The benefits gained from the new systems have been substantial.

First, transaction costs in the market have been reduced. Institutional investors' commissions have fallen by 40 to 50 per cent while much business is now being done between institutional client and market-maker at no commission.

Second, competition in the market has increased. There are far more market-makers than there were before Big Bang, and they are quoting fiercely competitive prices.

As a result of this sharper competition, the touch in the

Government poised to shelve BP sale

By David Young, Energy Correspondent

The Government is expected to announce today that the BP share sale - the largest in the history of the world stock markets and the most important element of its privatization programme - is to be shelved.

The "termination" - the word being used by merchant bankers last night - of the £7.2 billion share sale will be a big blow to the Government, which to date has been largely successful in its privatization programme.

They have now asked for the Treasury to reconsider the matter and it is understood that Mr Norman Lamont, who announced the government decision in Parliament today.

Last night the Treasury was meeting the financial advisers to the sale, but was still telling the financial community that the schedule remains unchanged. However, the Government has until 2.30pm on Friday afternoon, when trading in the BP shares on sale is due to start, to cancel the issue.

It has created a new breed of small investor who has made profitable investments in companies such as British Gas, British Telecom, TSB Group and British Airways.

They have seen quick returns on their investment and up to a week ago 6 million had announced their intention to buy into BP, and seemed likely to make instant profits of about 30 per cent.

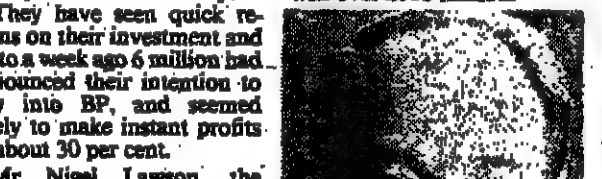
Mr Tony Alt, the director of merchant bankers NM Rothschild credited with putting together the BP sale package, saw the Treasury yesterday. He had been asked to put forward the views of the financial institutions who have underwritten the issue.

He told Mr Lawson that they had asked him to reconsider the matter - not because of any individual concern about meeting their underwriting losses, but because of the effect the flop of the issue would have in world markets as a whole.

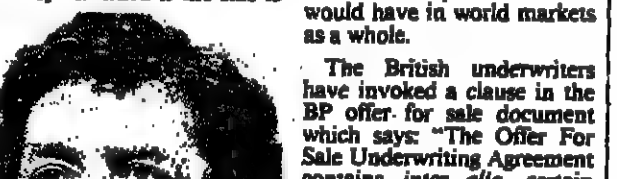
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Ironically, Mr Michael Richardson, the NM Rothschild managing director, who put the underwriting package together, said that it had been the smoothest underwriting exercise he could recall.



Richardson: put together underwriting package



Lawson: expected to make announcement today

CBI set to debate impact of SE dive

By Edward Townsend, Industrial Correspondent

The Confederation of British Industry is preparing for an emergency debate on the stock market crash at the CBI annual conference which opens in Glasgow on Monday.

CBI officials said a last-minute resolution on the impact of the share price collapse on industry of the 1 1/2-day conference is the report from the high-powered City-industry task force, formed by Sir David Nickson, CBI president. It concluded, after a year of investigation, that the complaints from industrialists of "short-termism" by institutional investors were largely unfounded. The biggest prob-

Pressure mounts for base rate cut

By David Smith, Economics Correspondent

Pressure for a further reduction in base rates mounted yesterday, as the pound strengthened and the equity market again fell sharply. Money market interest rates opened nearly half a point lower than the level established on Friday, in the expectation that the Bank of England would allow base rates to fall again after Friday's cut from 10 to 9.5 per cent.

Hong Kong's 'Niagara Falls'

From Stephen Leather, Hong Kong

The Hong Kong stock market crashed yesterday, when a 1,126 point fall in the Hang Seng index - a third of its value - knocked about HK\$200 billion (£15.5 billion) off the Crown Colony's shares.

The sharp fall in the market, after its four-day suspension, dragged down the futures market, which the government had to bail out with a HK\$2 billion rescue package over the weekend. The plunging index triggered the suspension of November and December contracts once prices had dropped by the daily limit of 300.

But the Bank refused to sanction a cut in rates so soon after Friday's reduction. The move does not, however, preclude a cut in base rates in the next few days.

"The feeling is that if the equity market is sharply down again tomorrow, the pressure for another base rate cut could be irresistible," said Mr John Shepperd, economist at Warburg Securities.

BP, one of the CBI's biggest members, would make no contribution to any debate on the share price collapse because of legal constraints, a spokesman said yesterday.

Last week, Mr John Bannham, the CBI director-general, attacked the "computer-induced panic" of the City which, he said, had nothing to do with the real world.

Mr Ray Asin, Securities Commissioner, yesterday said he would suspend the 35 per cent rule for one month, but he said excess shares would have to be sold within a year.

Yesterday Mr Li said he was disappointed with the limitations set by the Securities Commission. "We bought several million dollars worth of shares yesterday, in spite of everything, because we wanted to support the market. We hoped that other big companies would do the same so that the market could be stabilized more quickly."

Today the CBI's quarterly industrial trends survey will show that industry and commerce are still optimistic.

The three-month interbank rate, having dropped initially to just above 9 per cent, ended at 9 1/4 per cent, around a quarter of a point down on Friday's closing level.

On the currency markets, the dollar closed lower on the day, in spite of intervention to support it by both the Bundesbank and the Bank of England. It fell by 1.4 pence to DM1.7714, and from ¥142.70 to ¥142.15. The pound rose to nearly \$1.70 before the Bank's intervention, closing at \$1.6880, a cent up on Friday's close.

The fall in share prices, which took the index down to 2,342, its lowest level since November 1986, came despite a series of measures the government had hoped would prop up the market. Prime rates were cut 1 per cent to 7.5 per cent over the weekend, and the government called in Hambro merchant bank to put together a package of loans that would keep the futures exchange afloat if there were massive defaults.

"It was like Niagara Falls," one shell-shocked broker said. "People were dumping stock as fast as they could, it was awful."

The pound ended at exactly DM3, up by over a pence, and the sterling index rose by 0.6 points to 74.1.

The extent of the fall was greater than most expected, as some brokers had

He would renew his appeal to the Securities Commission for unlimited purchases above the 35 per cent threshold, at the same time trying to persuade his "friends with considerable assets" to help support the market.

Leading businessmen were given a boost by the Securities Commission, "sympathetic and constructive approach" to customers who have borrowed to buy shares.

He said if customers were forced to sell shares to meet margin requirements it would "exacerbate the pressures on the market."

It would therefore be helpful to markets if banks were able where possible to take account of the overall credit-worthiness of their customers when considering compliance with the specific terms of borrowing facilities, he said.

Market round-up 26

Successful business trips to Portugal start at Heathrow.

Dow falls further on renewed anxiety

From Charles Bremner, New York

Share prices dived again on Wall Street yesterday, pushed downwards by the new plunge in London and the Far East and continuing fears in America that the worst may still be coming.

After stabilizing for the last two days of the week, the Dow Jones industrial average dropped more than 100 points in the first 40 minutes of trading before bouncing back briefly and then resuming its fall towards the 1,620 mark. It finally closed at 1793.93, down 156.83.

President and Congress seek a budget deal

From Bailey Morris, Washington

President Reagan and Congressional leaders concluded their first "Council of War" on the US budget deficit yesterday with a firm commitment to achieving a political compromise on spending priorities that could include revenue increases.

The White House meeting, held as share prices continued to plummet on nervous markets, represented a significant political breakthrough in the six-year battle between the Administration and Congress over US fiscal policy.

By mid-morning, volume was at a brisk 142.67 million shares. The market closed two hours early at 2pm, under a decision by the stock exchange last week.

Traders, many of whom had spent the weekend trying to catch up on the huge backlog, took their lead from the markets in Tokyo and London. They were also influenced by forecasts from analysts who say that the decline threatens to curb consumption and push the economy into a full recession.

Both sides agreed there would be no specific targets or deadlines, but they would do their best. The meeting was primarily a scene-setting conference in which each side took the political measure of the other.

Mr Reagan and his economic advisers met the leaders of Congress for slightly more than an hour and concluded that a compromise could be achieved. They agreed to appoint working groups that would meet again this afternoon to begin work on the nuts and bolts of a compromise.

"You can call this controlled carnage, as opposed to last Monday's uncontrolled carnage," said one trader.

Overall, declining issues in New York outnumbered advancing shares by about 13 to 1, with 1,584 down, 122 up and 163 unchanged.

Among prominent losers were IBM, which dropped 6 1/4 to 114 1/2, General Electric down 3 to 43 1/2 and Ford Motor down 4 to 70.

Notably absent were the critical statements and bouts of political name-calling that have marred other meetings between Mr Reagan and the Democratic leadership in Congress.

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Mr Beryl Sprinkel, chairman of the Council of Economic Advisers, said prior to the meeting that a recession was not likely, despite the near certainty of a slowdown in consumer spending. He spoke as US Commerce Department figures revealed a sharp slowdown in consumer spending last month, despite a rise in spendable income of \$25.4 billion, or 0.7 per cent. Spending fell in September by \$16.1 billion, 0.5 per cent, a larger reduction than expected.

Separately, the White House has indicated that Mr Reagan will agree to a programme of undisclosed new revenues and "loophole" closures, a term that has become a euphemism for tax increases.

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TAP Air Portugal offer more flights to more of Portugal than any other airline. And

Losses increase but the Bank happy with new gilt market

David Smith talks to the Bank of England's Eddie George on the impact of Big Bang



In the frenzied financial environment of the past 10 days, government bonds in general, and the gilt market in particular, have boomed. But the 10-point recovery in long gilts since October 20 has not altered the fact that in the 12 months since Big Bang, the gilt market has been a difficult place to make money.

Net losses for the market as a whole are running at about £50 million, with four of the 26 market-makers sitting on sizeable losses. Two more have run up smaller losses, although still big enough to have led to some hard questions being asked by their parent companies. Thus, apart from the lucky few who have ended the first 12 months in the black, most of the market-makers are just about breaking even.

This explains why only one of the original 27 entrants has dropped out. Lloyds Merchant Bank called it a day in June, but the others have decided to hang on. The Bank of England has monitored very closely whether all participants are making a market in "fair weather and foul". So far it is satisfied that they are. The smallest of the market-makers has a market share of 1.5 per cent, twice the minimum of 0.75 per cent set by the United States authorities for primary dealers on the other side of the Atlantic.

Mr Eddie George, the Bank of England's executive director with responsibility for home finance, is generally very pleased with the way that

the new-style gilt market has developed.

He said: "There is no question that the market is better for users. It is more liquid, dealing costs are less. The object of the restructuring was to produce as liquid a market as we could."

"Competition is very good for users; it is not so good for producers. It is extremely competitive, spreads between buying and selling are very narrow. It is very difficult for anyone to make a fortune out of that kind of business."

The Bank of England is pleased with the way the gilt market is split between retail business — sales and purchases of gilts by pension funds and insurance companies — and trades between market-makers. The split, roughly 50-50, is regarded as broadly right, with greater turnover between market-makers part of the "enhanced liquidity" of the new market.

Mr George said: "The thing that I think is important to try to do is to draw a distinction between the market structure and the market environment. The out-turn does depend very heavily on the market environment."

Although astute market-makers can make money in a falling market, it is generally far easier to do so in a bull market. The market has had an occasionally bumpy ride over the past 12 months. There is a feeling among some gilt market operators that the ushering in of the new era was

accompanied by an "ushering-out" of gentlemanly behaviour by the Bank of England.

Alexanders Laing & Cruickshank, one of the 26 market-makers, in a report published to accompany the first anniversary of Big Bang, said: "The Bank's operations have at times been surprising, confusing and occasionally incomprehensible to market makers. This may have been the intention, but it will have its costs as market-makers with burnt fingers become ever more reluctant to accommodate the Bank at the time of tenders and auctions."

Two particular episodes have stood out. The Bank's decision to cut the price of its top immediately before the August 6 rise in base rates, and the gilt auction prior to very poor trade figures in September. Both left market-makers sitting on large amounts of stock and, as the Alexanders

report suggests, with burnt fingers.

But at the Bank, such a shift in tactics is categorically denied. One official, who preferred not to be named, said: "There is some suggestion that there are new Bank of England tactics that are more aggressive. That is nonsense."

"It is nonsense, absolute nonsense. We have a great interest in managing the market, but you can't put that ahead of conduct of monetary policy. Market-makers really believe that in the old days we would have told the jobbers. The truth is we never told the jobbers."

Mr George, for his part, conceded that the experiment with gilt auctions had not been an entirely happy one for the market-makers. He said: "I'm not entirely happy with the auction experiment. From the point of view of users and from the Government's point

of view, the auctions have been too successful. It has not helped us in terms of the long-term success of the experiment."

Although the auctions are regarded as a technical success, Mr George has stuck to his view that he will continue with the present "hybrid" system of funding — taps and auctions — but if it were to come to a choice, he would favour using the old tap system on its own.

Almost as soon as the gilt market had got used to the new-style trading system a year ago, it was hit by the Chancellor's autumn statement and his surprising generosity on public spending. That shock was relatively short-lived, and gilts, measured by the Financial Times Government Securities index, climbed steadily from the middle of November, until the March Budget. The market fell on the Budget itself, but enjoyed another rise from mid-April until well into May, when nervousness over opinion polls pushed the market down.

But the unhappiest experience in the 12 months, including the events of the past few days, came for the gilt market with the general election. Gilt market-makers manfully burned the midnight oil, staying open for business all night in anticipation of the arrival of the "wall of money" from Japan.

The wall of money, if it did arrive, did so too slowly for the gilt market. About half of the £50 million lost by market-makers as a whole came in the few days after the election. Mr Thatcher's triumph was the gilt market's disaster. And, until its sharp recovery since Monday of last week, proving that the equity market's poison was meat to the gilt market, the prospect of recovering those losses looked very slim indeed.

Mr Bill Allen, a director of Greenwell-Montagu Gilt-Edged, one of the select band of profitable market-makers, says that the route to generating an acceptable return in the highly competitive market environment is "very tight control of risk". Greenwell-Montagu, which pulled out of equity market-making, has run a profit on its gilt operation every month this year, the only one of the market-makers to achieve this.

The Bank expects to receive applications from additional institutions, notably the Japanese house Nomura and Daiwa, to participate in the market.

COMMENT Kenneth Fleet

Unhappy returns for the City's Big Bang

Big Bang has assumed an almost sinister meaning since world stock markets began their violent fall two weeks ago. Until then, the tide of optimism reflected in rising share prices had helped to ease the revolutionary changes in the Stock Exchange formally set in operation on October 27 last year.

In a bear market, the brutal pressures of deregulation and competition would have caused dislocation, pain and loss. As it turned out, the bull market ran for 50 weeks of Big Bang's first year: there have been some casualties, but few of note; fortunes have been made, and fortunes conspicuously spent; the tabloids have discovered the yuppie generation; and the City has emerged with a market in securities, foreign and domestic, in which it and the country can take some pride. As the third international stock market after New York and Tokyo, London is now in with a chance — a remarkable development within 12 months.

In the hectic dealing of recent days, the new screen-based system has creaked and groaned but it has not wilted. Over the last year, customer business has doubled, with an average of £4.2 billion worth of stocks traded daily. The Topic information system now handles seven million queries a day against two million before Big Bang. Customer turnover in gilt-edged securities is now £2 billion a day, an increase of 50 per cent. Another £1.2 billion is traded daily among market-makers. The traded options market handles 50,000 contracts daily, 180 per cent more than a year ago.

Problems with the Stock Exchange Automated Quotations system, Sir Nicholas Goodison, chairman of the International Stock Exchange, said yesterday, had largely been eradicated. In the last four months, the performance availability of Seag's central computers has been 100 per cent, and 99.8 per cent, on average, during the last year. An independent public opinion survey (NOP) of 156 investment managers and equity dealers had shown that 61 per cent were either quite or very satisfied with Seag in a busy market compared with 30 per cent who were rather or very dissatisfied.

Looking at the performance of the market-makers, it is clear that dealing skills have been the one root cause of success: the new financial conglomerates, which include a major jobbing firm, have been seen to advantage — notably BZW and Warburg. While a cloud of uncertainty hangs over Wood Mackenzie, which has been affected by the fall-out from the clash at Hill Samuel, the broking firms which have shone brightest are James Capel, Hoare Govett and Phillips & Drew, with Savory Millin and Panmure Gordon also

showing to advantage. Cazenove has become an enigma wrapped within its habitual mystery. The saddest story is Greenwell's whose status has tragically diminished.

The bearish condition of the market is enough to banish any complacency about the progress the City has made since October last year but even without a bear market, the American experience after Wall Street's own Big Bang in 1975 and in recent months is a warning of radical changes ahead. Margins in the securities business are now very fine — the result of intensive competition and instant communication — and the risks are correspondingly greater. Some of the losses sustained by leading New York houses are mind-bending and mainly the result of two factors: the "star system" and the low standard of management found in most investment businesses. In the war between the managers and the traders — those high-profile market geniuses whose enormous losses earlier this year began to match their earlier enormous profits — the managers now have the upper hand. London since Big Bang has also seen an explosion in overheads. Only now is the problem being addressed.

Calling the Governor

Where is the Governor of the Bank of England in this hour of financial crisis? The reason for asking is that Robin Leigh-Pemberton seems to time his visits behind the Iron Curtain to coincide with storms in London. He was apparently in Russia at the height of the Johnson Matthey affair, when the Bank made a controversial £100 million deposit with the stricken institution. The deposit caused a political furore. Now the governor is in Eastern Europe. He was "kept in touch" with the decision to cut bank base rates, but he seems determined to play no active part in the current excitement.

Not that there is anything wrong with visiting the Communist bloc. But is it really wise for the City's leading figure to disappear on an official trip to Romania, Yugoslavia and Bulgaria, hardly the heart of the world financial system, just as that system lurches into its worst crisis for years. Mr Leigh-Pemberton left last Monday morning — when it was simply clear that something unusual was happening in the world's stock markets. He is not expected back until Thursday and there are no plans to curtail his trip.

This is surely the action of a man who is either so certain of his re-appointment for a second term that he does not care how his absence might look; or of one who has given up all hope that he will again find favour with Mrs Thatcher.

A first year of revolution and growth

Continued from page 25

market — the difference between the best buying and selling price — has fallen by about 40 per cent. The Government played its part, too, by reducing the rate of stamp duty to 0.5 per cent with effect from the date of Big Bang.

These downward pressures on costs of dealing have stimulated market activity. In the third quarter of last year, the last before Big Bang, an average of 20,000 equity deals were made daily in our market; in the first nine months of 1987, the daily average almost tripled, to just under 59,000. The value of customer orders in equities has risen to more than £1,100 million a day, compared with £700 million last year. We are now transacting as much equity business in a month as we used to do in a whole year before 1983.

Trading in non-British securities is currently running 70 per cent higher than last year, at £500 million a day. Most of this business is done on the basis of SEAQ International prices, in stocks with no London listing.

In the gilt-edged market, too, turnover has been buoyant, with average daily value of customer turnover rising to more than £2,200 million during the first nine months, compared with £1,100 million in 1986.

To help market-makers and investors handle the greater risks and volatility in the market, the traded options market has come into its own. More than 30,000 contracts a day were traded in the third quarter of this year, an increase of no less than 180 per cent on a year earlier.

The success of the new system has brought some problems in its wake, notably in the area of settlement. Although the Exchange upgraded its own systems to meet the anticipated workload, there have been problems in some member firms' and registrars' back offices. Ultimately the answer will be to eliminate much of the paperwork associated with share dealing and to simplify the whole transfer process.

We are developing such a system — TAURUS — the first phase of which should be in place in two years' time. It cannot, of course, answer the short-term problems, but we are tackling that too. We have created a high-level task force to monitor the situation and to help those member firms with the worst problems to overcome them. We have also taken powers to restrict firms' business and to fine those whose record does not improve.

We believe that the worst settlement problems are over but we are keeping the situation under constant review

and will be in a position to take rapid action if need be.

The new market structures, along with a market which — until recently — was rising strongly, have proved a boon for new issues by companies. In the year to September, no less than £30 billion was raised by companies, of which £9 billion was from privatization issues. This exceeds all previous sums raised on the Exchange and will have obvious benefits for British industry. It is money that can be invested in new plants and the creation of jobs.

More than 300 companies have come to one of our three markets over the past year: 193 (including 40 overseas) companies have come for listing; 87 have been admitted to the Unlisted Securities Market, while 28 are currently traded on our newly-established Third Market.

On the other hand, the Government, for so many years our biggest issuer, raised only £16 billion in the year to September, or £7 billion if redemptions of stock are taken into account.

In the field of wider share ownership, we have seen a continuing growth of interest with three further privatizations during the year bringing in more new shareholders. At this stage, no-one can predict what effect the recent fall will have on this new generation of shareholders in the long term.

Most of those who have bought and held privatization issues are still showing a profit, although a smaller one than two weeks ago. We always urge people to invest in equities only that amount of money they can afford to put aside. Those with patience will ride out the recent fall.

More generally, member firms, new and old, are confident that retail share trading can become a reality for the man in the street and are establishing the means of catering for his needs. I remain optimistic about the wider spread of share ownership in the future.

So, as we enter the second year of our new market, we take pride in the solid progress we have made and derive confidence from the much-improved economic background in the United Kingdom. We also look forward to the exciting new developments which will improve our markets still further: the expansion of our international equity market and of our options market; the establishment of new links with other financial centres; the continuing enlargement of the number of individual shareholders; the introduction of a system to automate small deals; and the development of TAURUS to improve and simplify our transfer process.

As the Chinese proverb says, "change is the only permanent thing in life".

The rise of Charles Perrin

"Where's Perrin?" came the call on Thursday morning, from the Hong Kong government, and Charles Perrin, deputy chairman of Hambros Bank, was on the next flight to the Far Eastern colony. Within 36 hours of the call Perrin and his team, comprising colleagues Nicholas Scott-Barrett and Peter Binder plus Gerard and National managing director and Liff chairman Brian Williamson, were thrown into a round of meetings there, arranging support for Guarantee Corporation of the Hong Kong futures exchange. Four days later, with the mission largely completed they are now catching up on missed sleep, adding finishing touches to the agreements, and are expected to return home before the end of the week. But although at short notice, the call from Hong Kong came as no surprise to troubleshooter Perrin. The quietly-spoken and exacting 47-year-old, with a rare social and environmental conscience — he still finds time to be a director of London Zoo and sit on the London committee of Unicef — has built quite a reputation for himself and his bank. It was the same three-strong Hambros team which masterminded the HK\$3.5 billion reconstruction of Orient Overseas Holdings, part of the CH Tung group, 18 months ago, when it ran into difficulties. Further demonstrating Hambros' depth of experience in dealing with such troubles, metal traders will no doubt remember that

THE TIMES CITY DIARY

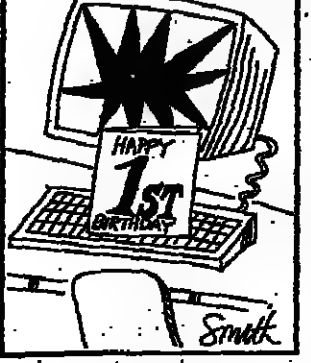
New wave on Wall St

Has Robert Prechter, erstwhile rock band musician, who once wrote songs for Rod Stewart and studied psychology at Yale University, changed his tune again? Greeting some \$4.5 million a year from his newsletter and telephone advice service operated from his Georgia house, it was Prechter — hailed by some Americans as a "guru" — who triggered Wall Street's first major fall in the current stock market crisis, by recommending clients to sell.

Now he is apparently telling them that Wall Street is going to move much higher. Prechter, who claims no special knowledge of finance or economics, bases his advice on the Elliot Wave Theory, which he discovered gathering dust in a forgotten corner of New York Public Library, and four years spent as an analyst with investment house Merrill Lynch in New York, a decade or so ago.

Hambros director Sir Adam Ridley was one of those who led the rescue attempt for the International Tin Council.

Prophet soon? On September 29 veteran stockbroker Donald Cobbett,



aged 76, who quit broker William Morris & Co in the midst of the 1974 market shakeout, shortly before it merged with Quibler Goodison, spoke to students at the London School of Investment about "The Psychology of Investment". Undeterred by the rising market he warned them that "the market is too high." Proved right, sooner than he perhaps thought, Cobbett now tells me that he thinks the market is about to stabilize. "By tomorrow at the latest," he says.

● An unfortunate mix-up, I trust. A reader attempting to telephone the Bank of Ireland in the City last week was intercepted by a British Telecom operator and given an entirely new number to dial. It turned out to be a direct line to Scotland Yard.


Expense spared

Pharmaceutical giant Glaxo, whose shares have fallen harder than most during the past week, is at least trying to do something about it. Some 60 analysts — 30 from Britain and 30 from the US — are expected to be escorted around its American headquarters at Research Triangle Plant in North Carolina next month, as well as its manufacturing plant at nearby Zebulon, on what the company describes as a "field trip". It is apparently a follow-up to a similar trip arranged in 1984, after the Zebulon factory started production. "There wasn't a lot to see out there until 1984 and a lot has happened in the last three years," says a spokesman. "In response to a number of requests we have decided to arrange another visit." But the eager British analysts might not now be so keen to go — they have, I hear, been told they will have to foot the bill for their own air fares. With its shareholders' interests at heart, of course, Glaxo appears to be attempting to limit its expenditure to one night's accommodation in a hotel.

● A facsimile sent to The Times of half-time results from Caparo Industries includes the following postscript: "If not well-received, please call London 486-1417 immediately." One wonders whether a spokesman would then have given details of restated profit figures showing an even more impressive advance than the reported 95 per cent increase.

Carol Leonard

This announcement appears on a matter of record only



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October 1987

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Portfolio
-Gold-

From your portfolio card check your eight share price movements on this page only. Add them up to give you your overall total and check this against the daily dividend figure. If it matches you have won outright or a share of the total daily prize money stated. If you are a winner follow the claim procedure on the back of your card. You must always have your card available when claiming. Game rules appear on the back of your card.

No.	Company	Group	Gain or Loss
1	Noble & Lund	Industrials L-R	
2	FTI Co	Electronics	
3	FTI Co	Draperies	
4	FTI Co	Draperies	
5	FTI Co	Draperies	
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48	FTI Co	Draperies	
49	FTI Co	Draperies	
50	FTI Co	Draperies	

Please take into account any minus signs

Weekly Dividend
Please make a note of your daily totals for the weekly dividend of £6,000 on Saturday's newspaper.

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	High	Low

BRITISH FUNDS

High Low Close Price Change % P/E

SHORTS (Under Five Years)

No.	Company	Group	Gain or Loss
1	FTI Co	Draperies	
2	FTI Co	Draperies	
3	FTI Co	Draperies	
4	FTI Co	Draperies	
5	FTI Co	Draperies	
6	FTI Co	Draperies	
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8	FTI Co	Draperies	
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44	FTI Co	Draperies	
45	FTI Co	Draperies	
46	FTI Co	Draperies	
47	FTI Co	Draperies	
48	FTI Co	Draperies	
49	FTI Co	Draperies	
50	FTI Co	Draperies	

FIVE TO FIFTEEN YEARS

No.	Company	Group	Gain or Loss
1	FTI Co	Draperies	
2	FTI Co	Draperies	
3	FTI Co	Draperies	
4	FTI Co	Draperies	
5	FTI Co	Draperies	
6	FTI Co	Draperies	
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8	FTI Co	Draperies	
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46	FTI Co	Draperies	
47	FTI Co	Draperies	
48	FTI Co	Draperies	
49	FTI Co	Draperies	
50	FTI Co	Draperies	

OVER FIFTEEN YEARS

No.	Company	Group	Gain or Loss
1	FTI Co	Draperies	
2	FTI Co	Draperies	
3	FTI Co	Draperies	
4	FTI Co	Draperies	
5	FTI Co	Draperies	
6	FTI Co	Draperies	
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UNDATED

No.	Company	Group	Gain or Loss
1	FTI Co	Draperies	
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46	FTI Co	Draperies	
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48	FTI Co	Draperies	
49	FTI Co	Draperies	
50	FTI Co	Draperies	

INDEX-LINKED

No.	Company	Group	Gain or Loss
1	FTI Co	Draperies	
2	FTI Co	Draperies	
3	FTI Co	Draperies	
4	FTI Co	Draperies	
5	FTI Co	Draperies	
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50	FTI Co	Draperies	

BANKS, DISCOUNT, HP

No.	Company	Group	Gain or Loss
1	FTI Co	Draperies	
2	FTI Co	Draperies	
3	FTI Co	Draperies	
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38	FTI Co	Draperies	

Unconventional? Of course it is, that's how we achieved 21% market share within 4 months.

It's a widely accepted maxim in the marketing of 'gift products' that the choice of gift says just as much about the giver as it does about the person receiving it. Now it had come to pass that in the case of plain chocolate assortments the statement being made was 'I am very, very set in my ways.' Or at least that was the case until Cadbury Schweppes turned the market on its ear with some unconventional thinking.

Designer Chocolates.

Plain chocolate assortments have always been seen as upmarket and sophisticated. But the major brands in the market place have played it safe in terms of their imagery for a long, long time. The market was wide open for innovation. And the whole ethos of this new brand was to be as much about the packaging and image as the quality of the chocolates themselves. The key to the market lay with that great totem of the Nineteen-Eighties...style.

Not launched, but in remarkable shape.

Even for loyalists the buying of chocolate assortments is not that much of a regular activity. So the new product would have to have the greatest possible impact on shelf. So conventional wisdom was roundly ignored. The name Biarritz was chosen, because it was highly distinctive and evocative of style. As was the triangular packaging - unheard of for a boxed assortment yet difficult to miss and aggressively modern.

Playing Shop.

The product was researched in a simulated shop environment. When a healthy 47% of the respondents chose Biarritz, it was obvious that a new star had been born. The real launch took place in September 1986, the triangle was energetically marketed and over the crucial Christmas period Biarritz raced up to take 21% share of the market. Then, as an added bonus, grocery buyers voted Biarritz "Super Marketing confectionery product of the year," a special offer Cadbury Schweppes were happy to accept.

As Chief Executive Dominic Cadbury points out: "The success of Biarritz has boosted our share of the UK chocolate market to a three year high. Even more importantly, it has contributed to the growth of our profits and return to shareholders."

Cadbury Schweppes
MANAGEMENT
PROVEN IN THE MARKET PLACE

Biarritz Biarritz Biarritz Biarritz Biarritz Biarritz Biarritz Biarritz Biarritz Biarritz

THE TIMES UNIT TRUST INFORMATION SERVICE

Astra Unit Trust Managers				Bancassurance Unit Trust Managers				British American Unit Trust Managers				British Overseas Unit Trust Managers				British United Unit Trust Managers				British World Unit Trust Managers				British World Unit Trust Managers				British World Unit Trust Managers			
Unit	Price	Change	%	Unit	Price	Change	%	Unit	Price	Change	%	Unit	Price	Change	%	Unit	Price	Change	%	Unit	Price	Change	%	Unit	Price	Change	%	Unit	Price	Change	%
...	

UNLISTED SECURITIES

Company	Price	Change	%
...

FOREIGN EXCHANGES

Country	Rate	Change	%
...

INVESTMENT TRUSTS

Trust Name	Price	Change	%
...

GOLD

Gold Price	Change	%
...

LONDON FINANCIAL FUTURES

Contract	Price	Change	%
...

COMMODITIES

Commodity	Price	Change	%
...

The small man's stock market fights on

Many people wanted to strangle it at birth, but on November 10 the USM will be seven years old, a lusty youngster with 580 members and a capitalization of around £7 billion

Next month, the Unlisted Securities Market celebrates a milestone that many of its critics doubted it would ever reach: its seventh birthday.

Trading started on November 10, 1980, in a total of 11 securities, only two of which are still quoted on the junior market. The rest were either bid for, went on to better things, or fell by the wayside.

They included eight industrial companies (Scan Data International, John Hadland, Hesketh Motorcycles, Air Call, Fuller Smith and Turner, United Electronic Holdings, McLaughlin and Harvey and London & Continental Advertising) and three oil companies (Sovereign Oil & Gas, Clyde Petroleum and Aley Cluff's Cliff Oil).

The problems encountered by small companies trying to raise funds to finance expansion have been highlighted by no less than four eminent bodies over the years.

The Macmillan Committee first defined the problems back in 1931. The Radcliffe Committee on the workings of the monetary system touched on the subject in 1959, as did the Bolton Committee inquiry into Small Firms in 1971. But it was only after the findings of the Wilson Committee into the functions of financial institutions were made known in the late 1970s that action was taken.

The committee noted that the number of new listings between 1973 and 1978 had slowed to a trickle compared with the 1960s and early 1970s. Most small businesses were being forced to generate their own finance or turn to the banks for extra working capital, limiting the scope for growth as they lurched from one bank loan to another.

The strict Stock Exchange

regulations demanding a five-year track record, combined with the high cost of a listing which could be as much as £200,000, made the possibility of a public listing almost impossible.

The Wilson Committee decided that there was scope for small companies to enjoy the benefit of issuing equity without the hindrance of a full quote. A junior market, it said, would offer those companies the chance to obtain some of the benefits already enjoyed by larger companies.

The Stock Exchange, already worried by the decision of most companies to stay private, had also become concerned at the amount of business it was losing to licensed dealers, such as Granville and Harvard Securities, which were starting to create their own markets, thereby fulfilling the needs of budding entrepreneurs.

Many businessmen were clearly being deterred by the economic climate at the time of low profitability and high interest rates and by the restraints the Stock Exchange wanted to impose.

In early 1980, the Stock Exchange Council finally published its guidelines for the USM aimed at encouraging small businesses to seek a quote. These included restricting the amount of equity to be offered to the public to a minimum 10 per cent, to admit companies on a three-year trading record where appropriate, to require a table of financial statistics rather than an expensive set of formal accounts and asking all companies to sign a listing agreement.

But the proposals attracted fierce criticism from dealers worried that the USM would lower Stock Exchange standards, attract the wrong sort of companies and leave investors exposed.



The first USM casualty: Lord Hesketh's motorcycle group

But even the harshest of those critics has been shocked by the success of the venture. Within weeks, the original 11 constituents had more than doubled and at the end of the first year the total capitalization of the market was £646 million. By 1984, the number of companies quoted had grown to 250, worth a staggering £2.83 billion.

This figure has since swelled to almost 600 companies with more than 100 of them going on to a full listing. The USM also reflected the growth and decline of various industries. In the early years the market was dominated by the oil sector. Oil production companies flourished as the search for oil in the North Sea reached a climax. In 1983, the emphasis had switched to high-tech companies as the personal computer made its presence felt. But now the market enjoys a broader spread and is less affected by individual sectors.

The junior market is continuing to grow and the total capitalization of companies quoted at present is estimated to be around £7.98 billion. But the USM has also had its setbacks, though the blood-bath that had been forecast by some failed to materialize. Hesketh Motorcycle Group, headed by Lord Hesketh, was the first casualty when shares were suspended in January 1982, and the receiver appointed. Euroflame Holdings was suspended a month later with the liquidator finally appointed in 1985. Other companies that went to the wall were IO Technology, suspended in April 1983, Castle GB, the kitchen and bathroom equipment supplier, in February 1986, along with ICC Oil Services and Metal Sciences in August that year.

Shares of Access Satellite International were suspended in April last year pending clarification of the company's financial position. Geoffrey Douglas, head of USM research at brokers Hoare Govett, points out that a number of other companies have run into trouble over the years but were saved by "distress acquisitions". Breville Europe was rescued by Valor, Applied Botanics bought by REA, and Aeronite, the oil rig fire protection group, bid for by Morceau.

Mr Douglas says the USM

Even the harshest of critics has been shocked by the success of the USM

has helped to satisfy the needs of smaller companies and has more than lived up to expectations. "It is helpful that those sort of companies have their own universe," he says.

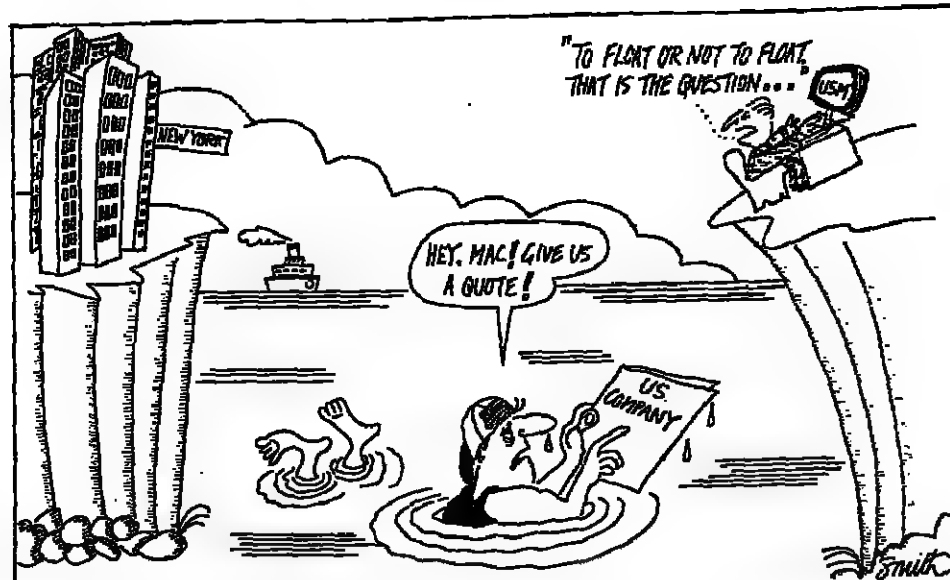
He is also pleased that the USM came through Big Bang virtually unscathed and once again confounded its critics, who had predicted that turn-over would suffer. "Dealing has become, if anything, a shade easier since Big Bang with a lot more players in the market-place," he says.

The Hoare Govett Smaller Companies index shows that smaller companies have consistently outperformed their rivals on the main market. This, it must be admitted, is partly due to the low level of equity held by the market. It also means the USM can expect to be better cushioned against the sharp falls that have been creating havoc elsewhere in the market.

Despite all this, there are signs that some businessmen are having second thoughts about the USM and seeking a full quote. Recent alterations in listing requirements have raised the cost of entry to the junior market and narrowed the cost gap of a full listing.

"Small companies that move straight to main market do themselves a dis-service. If you achieve a good track record you can be seen on the USM and attract more support," adds Mr Douglas, who believes that the USM will continue to thrive.

Michael Clark



'Swimmers' dive in

They call them swimmers: American companies which cross the Atlantic seeking a quotation on the London Unlisted Securities Market. They have always been viewed with considerable suspicion by London stock market professionals.

Andrew Holland, the USM expert at County Securities says: "Potential investors always ask: 'If this is such a good company why do they need to float the stock over here, why not do it in the US?' I have to agree that the question has never been satisfactorily answered."

Edward Bowden, who manages small companies funds for Lazard Securities puts it more forcefully: "A lot of the Americans seem to think we Brits were born yesterday. There is always the feeling that the reason they are here is that they could not pass the much tougher regulatory requirements of the US Securities and Exchange Commission."

The suspicion of all things foreign was to some degree intensified in the early years of the USM when the "swimmers" tended to be the high technology stocks badly mauled in their own private bear market of 1985.

Typifying the difficulties such companies faced was Nissco, the much-hyped three-dimensional camera company which, since entering the USM lists in 1981, has remained deeply in the red. Its amateur 3D cameras were no almighty flop. And even after selling off the camera rights for 2.53 million dollars its latest year-end figures showed losses of more than a million dollars. It hopes to survive on licence income, exploiting the 3D system outside the US and on film processing labs.

Despite this kind of cautionary tale, a dozen American companies have found their way to the USM if only to find themselves on the receiving end of a lukewarm reception. They

include such high-profile names as Mrs Debbie Field's cookie concern, Jack Rennie's Pacer System, Philippe Kahn's California software house Borland International, Frank Deaton's optical component-maker Optometrics, and architects Tribble Harris LI.

Jack Rennie, head of Pacer, a defence industry supplier from Massachusetts, is full of cogent reasons for his group's decision to head for London. In late 1984 he sought a quote in the US but the response from Wall Street was pretty negative. However, a contact alerted him to the possibilities of London's USM and to this date he remains astonished at the speed with which the deed was done. It took no more than 17 weeks from the first approach to getting the shares on to the stock market. He felt it might have taken twice as long in the US.

As a result, the cost of the USM quote is, he estimates, no more than 12 per cent of the amount of capital being raised against perhaps 20 per cent on the other side of the pond.

Mr Rennie was also full of praise for the professionalism of those charged with investigating the company in preparation for the listing. He claims they were both courteous and thorough and did not try to classify the company into some stereotype. He was further surprised to find some of the top securities firms in London prepared to act for him and found the reporting requirements, the rules on share sales by the company's officers and the ease with which new money could be raised, were all very reasonable.

They and other American firms have found the flexible approach of the City to lively young companies refreshingly different. But the question still remains whether the rules for USM entry are too free and easy even though the rules in the US may well be too tough.

Jim Levi

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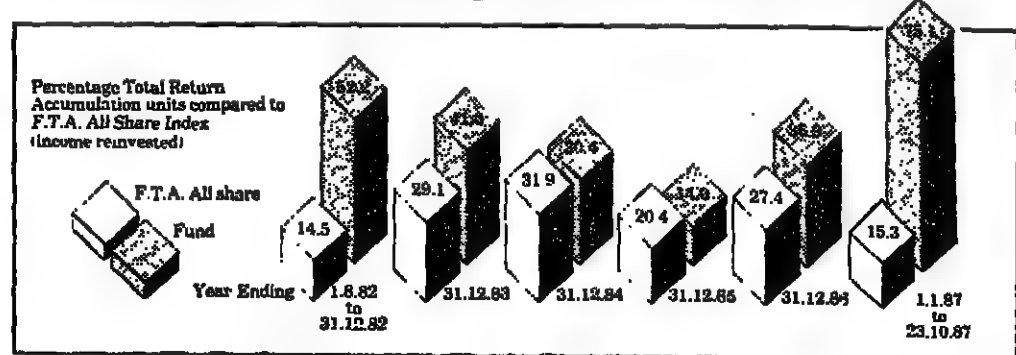
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FOCUS

UNLISTED SECURITIES MARKET/2

Takeovers galore as bulls horned in on rising premiums

The main features of the Unlisted Securities Market during 1987 have been the increase in takeover activity, the dramatic increase, until last week, in new-issue premiums attained on first-day dealings, the increasing number of "shell" companies being snapped up by ambitious entrepreneurs and the fact that USM shares have outperformed the main market.

New-issue premiums, a subject which interests all investors, averaged out at 23 per cent during the first half of this year, a huge increase on the 8.5 per cent average of 1986.

While the bull market has raged, the sell orders which would once have flooded in as soon as the market deemed that the premium had gone too high, have not, barring last week's hiccup, materialized.

Instead, it seems that there have been only buyers around and the shares moved steadily higher during the first nine months of this year.

The size of the premiums has been encouraged by the underlying strength of the

market. In the first six months of 1987, the USM index rose by 59 per cent to 195.3, outperforming the FTSE-100 Share Index by 15 per cent.

A review of different sectors shows that USM financials was once again the star performer, rising by 74 per cent — outperforming the All-Share by 25 per cent — with the USM computing index rising by 67

Huge increase in takeovers

per cent, oil by 50 per cent and electronics by 44 per cent.

The fact that larger companies are increasingly looking to the USM for their acquisitions has led to a huge increase in takeover activity.

More than 35 USM companies have been taken over so far this year — a figure which contrasts sharply with the grand total at the end of 1986 of just 50 takeovers since the market started in 1980.

Carol Leonard

Six hundred millionaires in fear of a mauling



Gyagell: maverick tycoon

Celebrating its seventh birthday next month will be a less than joyous occasion for the Unlisted Securities Market. It is now embroiled in its first-ever full-scale bear market and the savagery of the experience is even worse than most pessimists feared.

The mood was very different in March when the firm of accountants Touche Ross published its USM update and announced to a stunned world that the market had since inception created, on paper at least, some 600 millionaires, writes Jim Levi. How many of them will still be in that millionaire class when the bear market has run its course is an intriguing question.

But the bull market of the last few years has certainly created more than its share of remarkable business personalities from the USM nursery — and a number of them look destined to take their place alongside the great names in the British business scene.

Tony Berry, the hero of Blue Arrow, is a case in point. Back in the summer of 1984 he and his advisers were wondering whether they should postpone the planned flotation of their employment agency business on the USM. As we all know now, just three years later, after the audacious acquisition of Manpower in America, Mr Berry sits atop the biggest employment agency company in the world and the shares of his company stand poised to enter the illustrious list of the top 100 shares.

Bruce Gyagell, the pink-shirted maverick tycoon charged with running TV-am might fit into the same hero mould as Mr Berry a few years down the line. Certainly he has transformed the fortunes of the breakfast-television outfit after its disastrous launch 4½ years ago.

Reaction against the original, less commercially minded regime, has produced a business which has turned itself into a profit-making machine appropriate to the early days of ITV when Lord



Berry: Blue Arrow hero

Thomson described the franchise as a licence to print money.

Last year, TV-am returned profits of £2.7 million and some £12.25 million is expected for the current financial year.

It was perhaps no surprise to find Trevor Abrahamson's Glenree property and estate agency business suffering badly in last week's shake-out. The shares fell by more than one-fifth but then the price earnings ratio on the shares prior to the big shake-out had been as high as 170.

Certainly the market expects great things of Mr Abrahamson in his partnership with the former Hillside Holdings chief executive, David Thompson. Perhaps both men will welcome the market's decision to blow some of the froth off the company's share price.

It is sincerely to be hoped

that one of the leading ladies in the USM lists emerges as a major force in British business. Certainly compared with the United States and France, Britain has far too few leading tycoons who are female.

Her US nationality excludes Debbie Fields, the cookies queen, from this list so we must rely on women like Ann Bruh of the Frank Usher fashion house, Debbie Moore of Pineapple and Sophie Mirman, the Marks & Spencer-trained ace who created the Sock Shops chain.

One of the most impressive figures to emerge in the USM has been Hugh Sykes the 55-year-old accountant who runs Thermal Scientific with quiet but impressive efficiency. When he brought the group to market in 1983 it turned in profits of just £500,000 in its maiden year as a public company. In the current year, the electric furnaces, welding and plastic machinery group is expected to deliver profits nearer the £10 million mark.

He may lack some of the panache of other USM tycoons but it is hard to fault his performance he has delivered.

Of course, there has been no shortage of graduates from the USM during its seven-year life. More than 80 have graduated to the main market. That is proof enough, if proof is needed, that the nursery market is mature enough to create substantial businesses from small beginnings.

The test now is to see how the market shapes up in the face of the growing bears.

Lee Lee



Businesswomen Debbie Fields: the cookies queen

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What will happen in the time of the bear?

While claiming that the Unlisted Securities Market has been a success and has a great future, Brian Winterlood of County NatWest thinks that the liquidity of both the USM and the Third Market could be tested in a bear market, writes Carol Leonard.

Mr Winterlood, nicknamed "Mr USM" because his firm — Bisgodd Bishop before its acquisition by County NatWest — was one of the first to make markets in all the USM stocks, said: "With a bear market, I think the depth of liquidity on the USM and third tier may not be that good. But unlike the over-the-counter market, the companies on the USM can stand on their own two feet if they have to. They are all established companies. If they find their paper is worthless, it would make acquisitions more difficult, but they are still capable of growing organically."

Trade in USM stocks has grown enormously since Big Bang last October. It has created a four-fold expansion in turnover, with the USM further buoyed up by the growth in the number of tip-sheets.

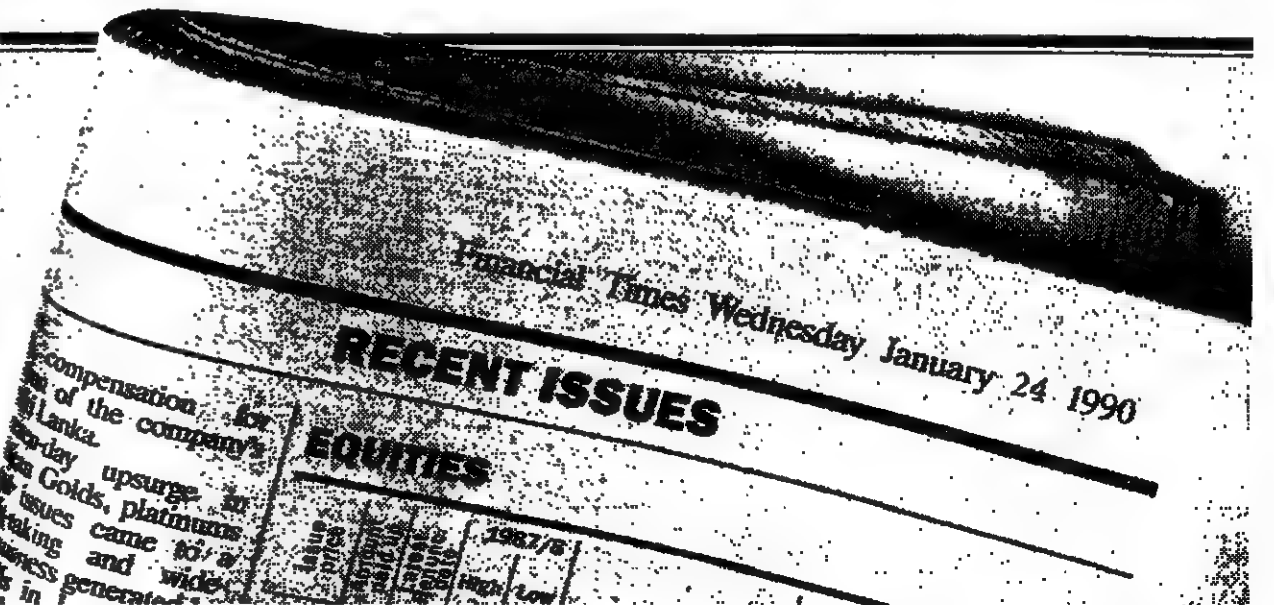
Many market men had feared that the USM would experience reduced liquidity on the impact of Big Bang and the creation of the Third Market. But County NatWest figures show that in the first six months of 1987, liquidity rose, with the average value of shares traded each day increasing by 68 per cent, from £13.3 million to £22.4 million.

They suggest four contributory factors to explain this. The liquidity has undoubtedly been fuelled by the increased takeover activity of USM companies and, second, the heightened post-Big Bang competition between market-makers dealing in larger stocks has served to increase their involvement with smaller companies.

An increasing trend towards in-house crossing of stock has further helped and there has been a significant increase in the number of new market-makers, who are additionally leading USM sponsors.

To compete effectively with other market-makers, they have had to make a similar size for both buying and selling shares, which in turn provides investors with greater flexibility to deal in USM companies, thus increasing overall liquidity.

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Edited by Matthew May

COMPUTER HORIZONS/1

How the Russians bought in the West

Norwegian authorities disclosed last week that Norway's state-owned arms company, Kongsberg Vapenfabrikk, had shipped to the Soviet Union more than 140 computers capable of running sophisticated machine tools and had cooperated with nearly half a dozen Nato countries in shipping other high-technology equipment to the Soviet military.

The sheer number of computers involved was more than 10 times the figure previously suspected by investigators. It led to charges that Norway's involvement in illegal diversion of high technology goods went far beyond its part in the Toshiba scandal, in which Toshiba Machine and the Norwegian company sold sophisticated submarine and computer equipment to the Soviet military.

More than 80 of the Kongsberg computers — numerical controllers — were clearly in violation of export rules set up by CoCom, the allies' Coordinating Committee for Export Control.

The new disclosures came as the US seeks tighter ex-

NORWAY

By David Sanger

port controls from its Nato allies and as the US Congress is considering sanctions against Toshiba and Kongsberg.

Norway announced that it had filed more charges against Bernard Green, a former Kongsberg official who was in charge of the sales, and two technical advisers involved in some of the exports, which included Swedish software sent to the Russians this year.

However the report said that the statute of limitations on export offences precluded charges against additional Kongsberg personnel, and it reached no conclusion on the question of whether Mr Green's superiors were aware of the dealings.

The Norwegian report also helped to solve an enduring mystery of the Toshiba affair: how the Russians had obtained the software necessary to design super-quiet submarine propellers, which American officials say have made the Soviet Union's undersea nuclear fleet harder to track. The report indicates that much of the software needed to design and to programme such a propeller — but not propeller designs themselves — was also provided by Kongsberg.

The arms company even shipped repair items to the Russians and sent teams of experts to the Soviet Union to teach them how to fix the equipment they were obtaining.

Investigators concluded that the more powerful variants of the controllers were often shipped to the Russians without export licences or with licences that misrepresented the capabilities of the equipment. Seventy-six, the report concluded, were illegal.

In some cases the controllers were sent directly to the Soviet Union. But more often they were shipped to third countries and incorporated in their equipment.

Did the computers decide to sell?

If you were in the share-dealing room of an American broker last week, you would have noticed a phenomenon. The many computer screens tracking the Dow Jones index dipped by a massive 100 points over a relatively short time. Nothing quite like it had ever been seen in the history of the exchange.

The exact sequence of events is still hazy. There are two theories.

THE WEEK

By Darrell Ince

about what happened. The first theory is that several computers made a "sell" decision more or less simultaneously, which led to the Dow dropping by 20 points. This was then fuelled by dealers who, seeing this lack of continuity, and worried by high (at that time) American interest rates, joined in. The second theory is that most of the selling can be attributed to the computers with an equal number of human buyers and sellers having little effect.

Whatever happened, it is clear that computers are having a distorting effect on the markets. Last week's erratic behaviour on the American stock exchange was the first solid evidence that the effect that programmed selling can have on the markets. Previously, there had been several signs that should have alerted American analysts.

For example, for some time there was a distinct movement in the American markets at around 5 o'clock. It used to be thought that this was because of the financial institutions winding down for the day. However, there is now increasing evidence that it was the result of computers closing down accounts.

What is causing concern to financial analysts is that all the prediction programs used in Wall Street and the City of London essentially use the same statistical theory. They will all act in concert when they see the markets rise and fall. So as more and more companies use these programs, there is



the danger of massive swings in markets, particularly in the currency markets, which are eminently suited to computer analysis, and where some degree of volatility has been the norm for the last decade.

Previously, the markets have behaved in a relatively random way with a mixture of fallible human buyers and sellers acting on hunches, guesses and inside information, resulting in gradual change. The use of the computer for forecasting introduces a large number of buyers, who all think alike, and whose actions affect each other. This is a recipe, as any systems analyst will tell you, for a highly unstable system.

What is interesting is the effect of a new generation of prediction programs which are beginning to percolate into the money markets.

These programs are based on artificial-intelligence technology, and are known as expert systems. They try to "replicate" the skills of a human expert. They are constructed by interviewing an existing expert and codifying the rules he or she uses to make a decision.

The rules are then stored in an area of the computer store known as a knowledge base. The knowledge base is then processed by the expert system in order to answer questions posed by a user.

Already one expert system for currency prediction has been developed by the British software company, Data Logic, and has consistently outperformed many human currency dealers. Other systems have been developed for option and futures trading by IBM and Minnesota University.

It is always difficult to predict the future in computing. However, if expert systems start being seriously used in the financial worlds one of two outcomes could ensue. First, they could become an off-

the-shelf commodity. This will mean that a large number of brokers will use copies of the same computer program which use the same human expert's judgement.

All they will do is to buy in a fast clone of the original expert whose knowledge is embodied in the expert system. Because all these systems will behave the same way, they will add another dose of volatility to the markets.

The second outcome will be that a brokers and financial service companies will develop their expert systems in-house, probably in conjunction with a software developer. Such a system will use the best of their dealer's expertise and will not be marketed, but used internally. This will have a dampening effect on the market.

So far there are no tools to analyse the effect of predictive computers on the market: the markets are just too complex to analyse.

● The author is professor of computer science at the Open University

What happened at the telecom show — and what it will mean around world

Still waiting to plug into the wide world

By Geoff Wheelwright

The computer and telecommunications markets came a step closer together last week with a range of new products demonstrated at the communications show Telecom 87 held in Geneva last week.

The show, which brings together the world's suppliers of telecommunications once every four years, demonstrated the current frantic pace of change and the speed with which communications is finally moving towards convergence with the computer sector. Part of this change has been fuelled as several telecommunications companies that were controlled by their governments have now become privatized or deregulated.

In the four years since the telecommunications business last gathered to inspect and

show off one another's wares, the huge telephone monopoly in the US was finally broken up by legislation. British Telecom was privatized and the junior competitor, Mercury, started.

Since then cellular portable telephones have also arrived and the manufacturers are convinced that soon they will become commonplace on trains, in cars and beside every fashionable executive's restaurant table.

Despite all this however, the chief focus of the show was on that which has not changed. I refer to the analogue telephone exchanges, which still form the backbone of many national telephone systems and prevents the widespread use of much of the communications industries products that are waiting for the installation of ISDN, the inte-



grated services digital network.

Once it becomes standard sometime in the 1990s, it will give a great deal more control over just how communications can be used by customers.

Using an ISDN system, for example, you will be able to receive multiple calls on the

same telephone in such a way that someone urgently trying to get hold of you would be able to send a message to a display screen attached to your telephone saying that they were holding and urgently needed to talk.

You will also be able to detect from the first ring of your phone information about

Computerized directory assistance systems such as this one from RC Computer are likely to find more applications now that the computer and telecom industries are edging towards more cooperation.

who is calling, what their phone number is and whether or not they had called earlier. You will also be able to use the same telephone line to speak at the same time as computer information is being sent over the line, switch between multiple telephone conversations on the same line and easily hold conference calls.

For managing all these facilities, a computer is needed. And it was clear at the show that this fact has not been lost on computer makers.

Digital Equipment, for example, announced a program aimed at integrating computers with telephones by linking manufacturers of large private switchboards to DEC computers. The idea is that the computer would become the vehicle for controlling both the use of data and voice communication over the telephone merging standard telephone functions into the computer.

First law sets pace in an era of great changes

By Matthew May

The science-fiction author and guru of the future, Arthur C. Clarke, was the man who anticipated the feasibility of the geostationary orbit for satellites that are increasingly used for global communications.

He once said: "When a distinguished but elderly scientist states that something is possible, he is almost certainly right. When he states that something is impossible, he is very probably wrong."

Referred to now as Clarke's first law the phrase was quoted at the opening of the Telecom 87 exhibition in Geneva last week to try and impress on visitors that sweeping changes can be expected in the world of communications over the next few years.

But it seems while companies are well ahead with all sorts of communications products to put on the desk of the future, installing the technology to connect them

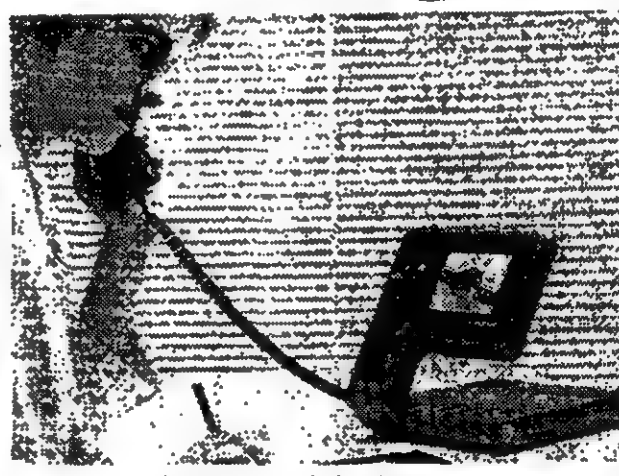
throughout the world is still a slow process.

Take for example the concept of the videophone, which has been around for several years. "Imagine a grandmother's delight at being able to see her new grandchild with just a phone call," said the Japanese firm NTT.

Such ideas have little hope of reality at the moment however. Using existing telephone lines only a still picture can be transmitted — the capacity is just not enough for movement. Customers freeze the picture they want sent and it slowly appears on the screen of the phone at the other end of the call.

Its major advantage is that it can be used on the current telephone networks and prices have been falling to the extent that black and white versions are available for less than £300.

Not so with the next stage of videophones — the slow scan version. For a start it needs the new digital telephone net-



Still a long wait for videophones

works of the nineties and even then the basic systems provide only a sort of jerky slow motion movement to fit down the capacity of a typical digital channel.

Most companies will not quote prices yet but those that do start at a phenomenal £30,000 or so and not surprisingly manufacturers expect

costs to plummet over the next five years.

But once advanced networks become widely available there are hopes for boom conditions with a report from the research consultancy Dataquest, predicting that fully-integrated communications between personal computers throughout the world will

become commonplace by 1992.

Fifteen million desktop computers are now connected and the report predicts it will more than double to nearly 40 million by 1991. By then the communications market in Europe will be worth £50 million and be Europe's largest single industry, it adds.

One move towards that came with an announcement just before last week's exhibition that the International Telecommunications Union (ITU), which regulates communications worldwide, will link mobile phones with satellites.

Until now car phones have been linked with land stations and have been limited mainly to urban areas. The ITU authorises the use of satellites but leaves it to private companies or governments to launch them and that, like many other future communications products, will depend mainly on when it becomes profitable.

A terminal answer to French tele-shopping problems

By Richard Sarsen

One could perhaps be forgiven for finding the French a little smug last week at their national stand in Geneva's Telecom 87 exhibition. They were, after all, celebrating the installation of the three millionth Minitel in France, the small terminal which any telephone subscriber there can opt for free of charge instead of a telephone directory.

As well as making directory inquiries, customers can dial up Teletel, the French equivalent of British Telecom's Prestel. Though videodata was invented in the UK it has been particularly galling for British Telecom to see the French knock out success after success with Teletel while Prestel still has only 72,000 subscribers, despite having started several years earlier.

The reason given for distributing the Minitel terminals in France free was that it would save money on amending, printing and distributing telephone directories. In fact this was only an excuse. In reality the whole Minitel exercise was an expensive gamble, to make France a nation of tele-shoppers.

The PTT, looking at the slow take-up of Prestel in Britain, realized that information providers would not want to set up a service unless they could be assured of a critical mass of subscribers.

Conversely, the subscribers did not want to link in, unless there were a lot of services. It was a vicious circle. So the PTT broke the circle by deciding, in 1981 to give away the terminals.

By 1985, a million had been issued progressively into one area of the country after another. Now, the whole country has almost been covered, and an eighth of all subscribers have opted for the Minitel.

Frederic Rebichon, in the PTT's office in Pall Mall, will not forecast the final number in the future, "perhaps five million, perhaps 10 million, who knows?" but the gamble has already more than paid off.

New industries around Minitel

Information providers now give nearly 6000 services, and 200 more are launched every month. Whole new industries have sprung up around the Minitel with hundreds of extra services available to plug in, from printers and memories to up-market intelligent colour versions.

There is even a Prestel and Telecom Gold-compatible model with keypads in English, approved by British Telecom for sale in this coun-

try by Romet-Alcatel at £325. The standard Minitel distributed in France probably costs no more than £100 to build.

French software houses and service bureaux have also been given a boost by the Minitel explosion.

For instance, Cap-Sogit which designed the software for the network on which the Teletel service runs, has gained more large-scale videodata expertise than the British software houses which developed the technology in the '70s, then there are the smaller firms which write the hundreds of mail-order, home-banking, messaging, games and computer-dating services, as well as notorious electronic chats with girls claiming names like Mimi.

There are three Teletel services, accessible on three telephone numbers, with the most widely used being Teletel 3, at a cost of 10p per minute. The PTT shells out five eighths of this back to the services — in a similar fashion to British Telecom's telephone services, using the 0898 prefix, which can cost a hefty 38p per minute in office hours and gives half back to those running the service.

In France this method of payment netted the providers of the information £80 million francs in 1986 from the French PTT. Although more

expensive, Teletel 3 is much more convenient, requiring no password and, as a result accounts for over two thirds of the 30 million hours during which Teletel users were connected to the system in the first seven months of this year. There may well be a lesson in this for British information carriers and providers, where services can be both expensive and often complex, involving several different charges — some include subscription, time charge and frame charge.

Originally it was expected that most of the calls would have been for directory enquiries, but they now account for only 17 per cent. Serious business and professional users: marketing, banking,

42 per cent of calls for serious trade

insurance, mail-order, scientific, medical, and municipal, account for 42 per cent while general information — the original aim of videodata in Britain — is running at only 8 per cent.

The Minitel gamble also has the spin off of creating a population which has far less fear of keyboards and has learnt to navigate through screen menus without inhibition. Other European countries have yet to make this cultural jump.



Europe now leads in chips to order

A revolution in chip-making

SEMICONDUCTOR

By Robert Matthews

The recent opening of the European Silicon Structures (ESS) custom-made microchip plant in France marks the latest stage in what is set to become a revolution in the semiconductor market. ESS has put Europe in the forefront of this field, filling a gap that neither the US or Japan has seriously looked at.

Both these countries have concentrated on a pile-it-high, sell-it-cheap approach to chip-making, using photographic-mask technology developed in the early 1970s that demands vast volumes to become cost-effective. But, surprisingly, the high-volume users of such chips, such as consumer goods manufacturers, constitute only a small part of the total chip market.



Jean-Luc Grand-Clement: "Shopped the world for chips"

Said ESS's chief executive, officer, Jean-Luc Grand-Clement: "We found that 80 per cent of business in semiconductors is for applications that need fewer than 5,000 units."

A former vice-president of the US semiconductor manufacturer Motorola, Mr Grand-Clement saw a gap in the market which the big manufacturers could not afford to fill because of the special equipment and dedicated production line that were necessary.

He found a ready partner in Robb Wilmut, who was chairman of ICL at the time. "I had shopped the world to buy chips in lots of under 2,000 for ICL," he said, "and I got tired of having the door shut in my face."

But to fill the gap, ESS has had to solve the key difficulty of getting enough throughput

of custom-built chips in small (even one-off) volumes to make a manufacturing plant economically viable. Part of the answer is electron beam direct write machines which can lay out chip structures without the need for the expensive masks and has been around for years.

However, the productivity of such "E-beam" machines, usually found only in the laboratories such companies IBM, as until has been recently low, too. ESS's plant, an Airbus-Provence first Europe's of version new of a broad machines, these of capable lines laying fine as half as micron a to up times 15 than faster E-current machines beam.

ESS has developed a number of expert systems which, it claims, allow even the inexperienced to make chips whose complexity would normally demand hand-crafted silicon techniques. So those needing, say, just one very complex chip for a prototype product can be trained up to take advantage of the E-beam technology.

The company thinks it will be able to offer chip-making on a timescale of just a few weeks, rather than many months, before too long.

The £18 million Aix plant will start full-scale production in January, and over 100 chip designs have already been ordered by companies wanting to exploit the new technology.

The ESS formula for success was convincing enough to attract almost instant venture capital backing, and eight European shareholding companies. The UK shareholder among the eight is British Aerospace, which put in about £3 million.

The market targeted by ESS is expected to show ten-fold growth to £640 million in the seven years to 1991. Mr Wilmut estimates the current European market for Application Specific Integrated Circuits (or ASICs), at about 2,000 designs a year. Of these, about 40 per cent are fully customised in design and production while the rest are produced in series and only finished individually, he said adding that ESS is aiming for almost 20 per cent of the market by 1992.

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Project management sheds hard-hat image

JOBSCENE

By Pat Sweet



Caroline Bagley: "Good project managers are getting hard to find"

Project management is often a skill more traditionally associated with the hard hats and wellington boots of the construction industry than the terminals and computers of software developers.

But the change in the types of computer systems now being developed has intensified the demand for people capable of controlling large, complex projects against tight deadlines.

Such people are not easy to find, and a Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) report on the computing services industry published earlier this year identified a critical shortage of project managers able to manage medium to large scale projects of a value exceeding £500,000.

In addition to becoming intertwined with business performance, computer projects are also getting bigger, with some of the most ambitious developments to be found in the public sector.

The Inland Revenue's move to computerize the administration of PAYE, for example, involves putting some 27 million taxpayer records and 1 million employer records on a system which will include 44 mainframe computers and 1800 VDUs.

The scale of such undertakings calls for very careful planning, while some com-

panies have unhappy memories of the days when software development was seen as a "black art" with project delays and overspending.

Computerized planning tools are only really valuable if they are being used by experienced project managers who have some idea of the size of the problem they are addressing. Caroline Bagley, recruitment manager with Computer People, the recruitment consultancy, reports that demand for such skills is tremendous.

"Good project managers are hard to find, especially people able to manage more than one project at any one time," she

said. Such people are being chased by the big software houses, City institutions and, increasingly, companies in the retail sector, which is currently investing heavily in new technology.

She is currently searching, for example, for a project manager on behalf of City financial concern. As well as technical knowledge, candidates need to demonstrate good interpersonal skills, in order to liaise with senior management, plus the ability to motivate the development team.

In reward, the starting salary for project managers is around £23,000, although from meeting the people involved, Ms Bagley believes there are certainly project managers in the City earning upwards of £60,000.

Until recently few computing professionals saw project management as a mainstream career opportunity. Most expected the next step after project leader to be that of data processing manager, perhaps in a smaller company.

"As projects are getting bigger and more important to the business, people now don't feel they've failed if they're in project management when computer management was their goal. In fact they often assume far more responsibility if they are in the right set up," Ms Bagley said.

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- excellent opportunities for development of management skills
- Post-basic Education Centre on site

Do come along and see us formally - ring Mrs. G. Horn, Clinical Nurse Manager, on Wellingborough (0933) 440099. (daily up to 5 pm).

For application form, job description and information pack, please contact Nursing Administration, Islebrook Hospital, Wellingborough (0933) 440099 ext 219. Closing date: 10th November 1987.

St Christopher's Fellowship
BELMONT HILL ADOLESCENT UNIT
(Lewisham SE13)**Project Co-ordinator**
BELMONT HILL PROJECT
Salary: £15,285-£16,557 pa inclusive

A new post has been created to manage and co-ordinate the Belmont Hill Project which enables young people to move towards independence through the Belmont Hill Project. The project is supported by an Outreach Team. The Fellowship has ambitious plans through its Housing Association to develop a new facility to support local authority housing provision in the near future.

The project requires an imaginative and creative person with a recognised social work qualification and management experience to be responsible for the project and to develop initiatives which provide support and assistance to young people preparing to leave the care system.

St Christopher's Fellowship has adopted an Equal Opportunities Policy. For informal discussion about the post, please telephone Mr John Stammers, Principal Care Manager, Tel: 01-573 7063/2222.

Application form and Job Description obtainable from The Director, St Christopher's Fellowship, 83 Warwick Road, London SW9 8HD. Closing date for Applications: Friday, November 6, 1987.

DURHAM FAMILY PRACTITIONER COMMITTEE
(National Health Service)

Administrator-family practitioner services. Salary £16,354-£20,692 (currently under review). Applications are invited for the above position which will become vacant on 4th April 1988.

The Family Practitioner Committee covers the administrative area of Durham county and is accountable to the Secretary of State for the provision and development of family doctor, dental, pharmaceutical and optician services. The administrator is responsible for managing the financial and administrative functions involving 44 million annual expenditure on family practitioner services.

The committee is seeking a person of appropriate experience, commitment and motivation to undertake this role and application forms and job description are available from The Administrator, Durham Family Practitioner Committee, Green Lane, Old Elvet, Durham DH1 3JX (Tel: 091 366 2326) to whom they should be returned by Monday 23rd November 1987.

COMPUTER APPOINTMENTS**TRAINING MANAGER**
Salary £17,000 + Excellent Benefits

Major City Insurance Company require an enthusiastic professional with a minimum of 2 years experience to create, design and present staff training courses. The company uses a variety of packages but the main one is Lotus and you must know it inside out.

WORD ASSOCIATES-0177 6433(Rec Cons)

TELEMARKETING
Fast growing international computer hardware company seeks dynamic, energetic self starters for our sales staff.

Knowledge of Spanish, German, Scandinavian languages a plus. Excellent communication skills, a desire to succeed, and sales or computer experience helpful. Basic plus commission, excellent growth opportunity. Interested? Please ring 01-202 3724

IBM Analysts / Programmers / Systems Programmers

With nineteen years success as a specialist IBM consultancy, WDR has achieved an envied reputation in the industry for a quality approach to Data Processing training and consultancy.

WDR is expanding its activities in order to provide a comprehensive but select service to its large customer base.

The hallmarks of WDR Contract Associates are:

- ★ Individual selection of contractors for Contract Associate status
- ★ Fast and efficient administration and customer communication
- ★ Free and regular WDR training available, dependent on service
- ★ WDR Technical Information Support Facilities

Combine freelancing with the free association of an imaginative and established IBM consultancy and training organisation. CONTACT: Hilary Lyndon-Dykes

Will-Denn Resources Ltd.
Data Processing Consultants
Park Lodge, 60 London Road, Horsham, West Sussex RH12 1AY
Telephone Horsham (0403) 68251/3

NORTH DEVON HEALTH AUTHORITY
DISTRICT MEDICAL OFFICER

Salary £32,920 to £34,826 annum

THIS IS A SINGLE HANDED POST in the tradition of the original experts of public health and social medicine, demanding a total approach to all health influencing the health of the community, offering a fellow field for epidemiological skills and innovative practice. All this plus the challenge of Devon.

The successful candidate will be the Chief Medical Officer to the Authority and to the District General Manager, will be a Chief Officer with access to the Authority, will be a member of the District Executive/Implementation Board, will be a member of the District Planning Group and be based at District Headquarters.

Duties will include advice on the health needs of the population, education of general and specialist, devising of preventive programmes, management of health education and health promotion, aspects of environmental health and control communicable disease in hospitals and in the community.

Employees may be made of ERNE WALKER, District General Manager and PERRY HEGESTER, Chief Medical Officer/Assistant District General Manager on Barnstaple (0271) 75511 extension 2151.

Application form, job description and district profile are available from the Manpower Resources Department, North Devon Health Authority, Riverside, Lichfield Street, Barnstaple, North Devon EX31 2ND. Tel: Barnstaple (0271) 75511 extension 5140. Closing date: 13 November 1987.

ROYAL SOCIETY OF MEDICINE

Applications are invited for the post of Medical Services Secretary, a senior appointment with responsibility to the Executive Director for planning all medical meetings of the Society at home or abroad. The successful applicant will be medically qualified and should be able to demonstrate experience of organising meetings within the medical academic environment.

An ability to communicate effectively at senior levels with colleagues in university departments, hospitals, research institutes and in industries allied to medicine is essential. The Society expects to appoint someone between the ages of 45 and 55 and the salary will be negotiable.

Applications should be received before 19 November. They should be accompanied by a CV and be sent to the Executive Director's Office, 1 Wimpole Street, London W1M 8AE.

A PILOT INTENSIVE EDUCATION PROJECT

For severely handicapped children aged two to seven years. A training programme is planned for two experienced staff commencing Autumn 1987 for two years. The project opens 1988.

We are looking for qualified teachers, physiotherapists, occupational therapists or nurses with a Christian commitment, who are looking for an exciting new challenge and are experienced in dealing with severely handicapped children. Professional salaries payable whilst training.

Details: Personnel Officer, The Shaftesbury Society, 2a Amity Grove, London SW20 0JH. Tel: 01-846 6636. (4218)

PRIVATE HOSPITAL

This is an established private 120 bed hospital in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia. Applications are invited from suitably qualified personnel in the following fields:

HOSPITAL ADMINISTRATOR, MATRON, ORTHOPAEDIC SURGEON, SPECIALIST DERMATOLOGIST, SRN NURSE, HOUSEKEEPING SUPERVISOR.

Benefits include long-term contracts, paid annual leave, tax free salaries, free furnished accommodation and paid airfares.

Please write with full cv to: ATIS INTERNATIONAL RECRUITMENT LTD, 73 SURREY ROAD, SURREY, KT1 2BG. TEL 01 541 1211

OPPORTUNITIES FOR WOMEN IN ELECTRONICS AND COMPUTING
No prior experience required.

An exciting course specially designed for women is commencing Monday 16th November 1987 at a address shown below. (15 mins from Waterloo, London Bridge, Victoria & Croydon). Training allowances are paid on this 20 week full time Manpower Services Commission funded course. Phone now on 01-778 8322 to arrange an appointment.

COMPUTER INSIGHT LIMITED, 159 HIGH STREET, LONDON SE20 7DS. ref WOW2

SALES REPRESENTATIVE
Home Counties
Up to 12.5K Pounds + Commission + Car (OTE POUNDS 30K)

The Company is the maintenance division of a major M/F leasing company. They are now expanding their Third Party Maintenance division. Ideally candidates will be aged 25 to mid 30s to promote maintenance for the Company's range of IBM sites. The appointment carries a substantial package, a basic salary in the range of 44,000 pounds - 12,500 pounds according to experience. Will be supported by a realistic commission structure and comprehensive personal benefits.

Please send a full cv to Pamela Davies or Sharon Kent. SUN COMPUTER MAINTENANCE LIMITED, 3 Crown Business Centre, Norton Road, West Drayton, Middlesex UB7 6HZ.

Social Workers

(SECTION II)

£9,051 with possible progression to £12,882. Reading Division, a busy urban setting with a substantial Afro-Caribbean/Asian population, seeks 2 Social Workers from these backgrounds for the Division's front-line work. It is responsible for social need within these specific communities. We have already made some headway in encouraging black clients to test out our service provision and we want to build on this positively.

We offer the right candidate strong professional support and there is peer group support from the Black Community Support Unit. There are regular meetings with the Management Team to examine and influence policy and practice. This Division is committed to equal opportunity and is working to defuse racism.

If you hold a CQSW we would like to talk to you - ring Tony Jones, Deputy Divisional Director, or Margaret Mackenzie, Assistant Divisional Director, on Reading 586111.

Application forms from Personnel Section, Social Services Department, Abbey Mill House, Abbey Square, Reading, Tel: Reading 586111 Ext. 500. Closing date 12th November.

Royal County of BERKSHIRE
AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES EMPLOYER**RHONDDA BOROUGH COUNCIL**
ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

POST: District Environmental Health Officer
Post £24,540 - £27,150 - £12,882 plus essential car and telephone allowance.

Applications are invited from persons who possess a Degree in Environmental Health or the Diploma of the Environmental Health Officer's Education Board.

The Rhondda Valley provides an increasingly ruralised and attractive environment in which to live and work, with easy reach of Cardiff City Centre, the Gower Peninsula and the Brecon Beacons National Park.

Housing prices are extremely competitive. The Council has a generous relocation scheme offering assistance towards removal expenses for this post.

POST: Meat Inspector/Technical Assistant
Post £23,540 - £26,150 - £12,882 plus essential car allowance.

Applications are invited for the above post from persons holding R.S.H. certificates in Meat Inspection.

The successful applicant will be required to carry out in addition to meat inspection duties, food hygiene inspection and sampling, etc.

The appointments are subject to the National Scheme of Conditions of Service.

CANVASSING WILL DISQUALIFY. Application forms are available from the Personnel Officer, Rhondda Borough Council, Rhondda, Mid Glamorgan, CF41 7BT. (Tel: Trehafod 62451). 2574 to whom completed forms must be returned by MON, 16 NOVEMBER, 1987.

EAST BERKSHIRE HEALTH AUTHORITY
MENTAL HANDICAP SERVICES UNIT
SERVICE DEVELOPMENT OFFICER

REQUIRED: To establish and manage services for people with mental handicap who exhibit challenging behaviour.

The Service, which is designed to meet the needs of these individuals whose behaviour is such as to limit their ability to live in the community, will play a key role in the implementation of the post last Berkshire Mental Handicap Strategy. It is being developed as part of a new service by the Health Authority in association with Berkshire Social Services and Education Departments and local voluntary and parent groups.

The Service will be based in Bracknell and provide a residential component of 8 places as well as offering support to people living in their own homes or in other residential accommodation. It will be managed on an inter-disciplinary basis.

The Service Development Officer will work with an existing task group in identifying the detailed operational policies for the service and will be responsible for its implementation when it opens next year. He or she will be responsible for a staff group of about 25 and a budget of about £340,000.

The Service Development Officer may come from any background but will be expected to have relevant qualifications and experience. The post will be a full time post with a salary in the range of £12,882 to £15,882 depending on experience and background. Examples of the level of work will be: Principal Psychologist, Principal Officer, Social Worker or Senior Nurse.

Further details and package are available from The Personnel Department, Church Hill House Hospital, Bracknell, Berks: Tel (0344) 422722.

If you wish to discuss the post please speak to Nigel Crisp, Unit Central Manager, on the above number. Closing date: 30.11.87.

PUBLIC APPOINTMENTS**MUSEUMS & GALLERIES COMMISSION**
OFFICE MANAGER
£9,265 - £11,565
including Inner London Weighting

The MGC has a central role in providing advice and assistance to museums and galleries throughout the UK. Several new functions have been taken on in recent years and administrative systems have now been developed in line with this expansion.

An experienced office/personnel manager is required to be responsible for the day to day management of the office, reporting to the Assistant Secretary for personnel, finance, systems, office buying and accommodation services.

An interest in or sympathy towards the work of the MGC would be highly desirable. Applicants should have at least 2 1/2 years level passes and the preferred age range is 25 - 55. Typing is not essential but would be an advantage. Computer training will be given. For application form and further details please contact:

Mr Jeremy Warren
Museums & Galleries Commission
7 St. James's Square
LONDON SW1Y 4JU
(Tel: 01-839 9341)
Closing date: Friday 6 November 1987

RHM
OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH NURSING ADVISER

We require a Nursing Adviser in South Wales, preferably living in the Cardiff/Newport area. The successful applicant will be part of a well established Occupational Health Team which operates a visiting service throughout our companies in the UK.

Applications are invited from RGN/ONHCs, preferably with experience of Food Hygiene and First Aid Teaching, who must be car drivers. A company car is provided as the job entails extensive travelling.

A competitive salary will be offered and there is an excellent pension scheme.

Please write or telephone for an application form and job description to:

Mrs M. Dewart, Principal Nursing Adviser, Ranka Horis McDougall PLC, RHM Centre, PO Box 178, Alma Road, Windsor, Berkshire SL4 3ST. Tel: (0753) 857123 ext 6805.

Closing date for applications is: November 16, 1987.

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE SCHOOL OF NURSING
An Equal Opportunities Employer
St Crispin Hospital
STUDENT NURSE TRAINING FOR REGISTERED MENTAL NURSING**A CAREER IN PSYCHIATRIC NURSING**

Places available in January 1988 for 3 year course leading to the R.N.M. Certificate based at St. Crispin Hospital, Northampton.

Applicants should possess 5 'O' levels (Grade A, B or C) or equivalent test may be taken by mature students.

Ring David Garry (Senior Tutor), Northampton 82223 extension 345 for details, or write to Central Nurse Recruitment Office, C/O School of Nursing, General Hospital, Billing Road.

DENTAL PROFESSIONALS
SYDNEY - AUSTRALIA

The Hospitals Contribution Fund of Australia Limited is a leading Health Insurance Fund, established in Sydney for over 50 years with a network of branch offices throughout the state of New South Wales, Australian Capital Territory and the Northern Territory.

As part of planned growth in the development of new services for our contributors, a 12-chair Dental Centre is being established in the heart of the city of Sydney. This Centre, which will open shortly, will be the largest, most modern private dental facility in Australia with emphasis on high standards of patient care.

Applications are sought from Dental Practitioners who are either recent graduates or experienced Dentists. Conditions of employment will include:

- salary in the range of \$A33,000 p.a. to \$A50,000 p.a., depending on qualifications and experience;
- encouragement to pursue further studies and postgraduate programmes.

Written applications with curriculum vitae and the names and addresses of three referees should be sent to the Manager - Personnel, HCF DENTAL CENTRE.

THE HOSPITALS CONTRIBUTION FUND OF AUSTRALIA LIMITED
G.P.O. Box 4242, SYDNEY, N.S.W. 2001, AUSTRALIA

CONFIDENT, INTELLIGENT, UNDERSTANDING?**Fast-track career opportunities in the Prison Service**

We're looking for exceptional graduate-calibre individuals keen to take advantage of a new scheme which offers accelerated promotion within the Prison Service. Successful candidates will start at the bottom but the ability to learn fast and consolidate experience rapidly will be rewarded with early management responsibility.

Running the Service is a complex and demanding job which calls for considerable flexibility, sound judgement and a demonstrable capacity for leadership. High achievers who show exceptional potential can expect to progress quickly to senior management positions.

Training at one of the Officer Training Schools will begin in September 1988. After 12 weeks you will be appointed to an establishment in England or Wales where you will spend just under 2 years as a prison officer. Progress then begins towards middle management, with a variety of experience to prepare you for senior governor and administrative posts.

Your basic starting salary will be at least £9380, rising to around £14,000 after 2 years.

For further details and an application form (to be returned by 16 November 1987) write to the Civil Service Commission, Alencorn Link, Basingstoke, Hants RG21 1JB, or telephone Basingstoke (0256) 468551 (answering service operates outside office hours). Please quote ref: G(A)928.

The Civil Service is an equal opportunity employer

THE INSTITUTION OF CHEMICAL ENGINEERS**DIRECTOR - MEMBERSHIP SERVICES**

We are seeking a first rate administrator, with good management skills, to lead the Membership Department, based in our Headquarters at RUGBY.

The successful candidate must be able to communicate effectively with the Institution's membership and to direct the work of the Membership Department. This will include the provision of services to the Membership Committee and the maintenance of the Register of Members. The Director will also be expected to develop and expand the Institution's membership base.

An initial salary of between £15,000 to £17,580 is envisaged, on a scale rising to £22,000 per annum. The Institution also offers a good contributory Pension Scheme, free permanent health and medical insurance, together with other benefits.

Assistance would be offered for direct re-location expenses.

Applications, in the form of a full curriculum vitae should be sent to Mr. D.B. Firth, Deputy Secretary, The Institution of Chemical Engineers, 165-171 Railway Terrace, Rugby CV21 3HQ.

WILTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL
Child Care Solicitor or Barrister
Up to £14,301

We urgently need a solicitor or barrister to help us with the increase in legal proceedings for the protection of children. This is a busy area of work. But the demands are stimulating and you will find considerable satisfaction in working with health and social services to secure a better future for deprived children.

If you are about to qualify, have just qualified or are an experienced solicitor or barrister looking for a challenging change and with an interest in advocacy we welcome your application. Training will be given.

We offer flexible working hours, 4/5 weeks holiday, car loan, generous allowances and the opportunity to work in a friendly office in this attractive County. If you want to find out more please ring Judith Allright, Senior Assistant Solicitor (ext. 3060) or Oliver Holder, Assistant County Secretary (ext. 3006).

Application Forms from the County Secretary and Solicitor, County Hall, Trowbridge BA14 8JN. Tel. 02214 3641 ext. 3007.

Closing date for applications: 15th November, 1987.

AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES EMPLOYER

Principal Officer (Conveyancing)
£15,587-£17,773 (rising to £19,211-£21,511 on 1.2.88)

This important position as head of the Department's Conveyancing Section, requires a manager of proven ability and experience with an excellent track record of running a busy team in every aspect of conveyancing. The person we are looking for will thrive on the prospect of providing a comprehensive conveyancing service in a competitive and commercial environment and will have the necessary managerial skills to bring out the best in the conveyancing team.

Right at the heart of the Midlands, Dudley Council is a modern progressive Authority and its policy of realising its assets and encouraging economic growth demands a high quality conveyancing service.

Applications invited from both admitted barristers and legal executives.

For further information and an application form please call John Polychronidis on Dudley 55433, ext. 5315, or write to him at the Legal Services Department, St. James's Road, Dudley, West Midlands, return by 11th November.

DUDLEY
Metropolitan Borough

PUBLIC APPOINTMENTS

CUMBRIA POLICE AUTHORITY
CHIEF CONSTABLE

Cumbria Police Authority invites applications from suitably qualified Police Officers for the post of Chief Constable which becomes vacant on 1st December 1987. Cumbria has an area of 1,682,780 acres and a population of approximately 487,000. The authorised establishment is 1,144 Police Officers and 408 civilians. Current salary is £39,408 and appropriate allowances are paid in respect of rent, car, subsistence and uniform.

The appointment will be subject to the approval of the Secretary of State, to the provisions of the Police Act 1964 and Police Regulations and to the candidate undergoing a satisfactory medical examination.

Application forms are obtainable from the County Secretary and Solicitor, The Courts, Carlisle, Cumbria CA3 8LZ (Telephone: 0228 23456 ext 2212) and should be returned by 6th November, 1987.

ARCHITECTS' DEPARTMENT

The Architects' Department is multi-disciplinary and consists of 60 staff providing a complete service to meet the needs of the Council. Emphasis is placed on providing a high quality design and technical service and successful applicants will be expected to contribute to and expand this service.

The Department has recently been reviewed to provide an organisation capable of meeting the growing programme of work.

Applications are invited for the following posts:-

Team Leader Architect's
(2 posts) (D563)

Up to £14,769 (£15,101 from Feb. 1988)

To lead a team of architects and technicians, responsible for the day to day design and co-ordination of projects from feasibility to final account, with proven high quality design and contract administration ability. Must be a registered architect with a minimum of 5 years post qualification experience.

Senior Mechanical
Services Engineer (D622)
£13,152-£14,301
(£13,449-£14,625 from Feb. 1988)

Experienced person to assist the Principal Heating and Mechanical Services Engineer, to supervise and direct a team, in the design and contract management of all mechanical and allied elements of the division's responsibilities within the council's building programme.

Full corporate membership of C.I.B.S.E. essential, with at least 3 years experience in a similar field. Requests for application forms and job details in writing only please, quoting 'D' numbers, to Development & Town Planning Division, Greenhale House, Piccadilly, Stockport SK1 3XE. Closing date: 30.11.87.

STOCKPORT
An Equal Opportunities Employer

BARNET MAGISTRATES'
COURTS COMMITTEE

Applications are invited for the following posts from persons qualified in accordance with the Justices' Clerks (Qualification of Assistants) Rules 1979.

PRINCIPAL COURT CLERK

Salary up to £18,021 inclusive
(Pay award pending)

This vacancy has occurred due to the promotion of the present post holder.

Applicants who have considerable experience of working in the Magistral Service and are able to take all types of court without supervision are invited to apply. He or she will be expected to make a significant contribution to the administrative work of the court and will lead a team of enthusiastic Court Clerks.

COURT CLERK

Salary up to £14,655 inclusive
(Pay award pending)

The successful applicant must be capable of taking all courts without supervision. The Committee will, however, also consider applications from suitably qualified persons who are not able to take all courts at this stage but who can demonstrate an ability to do so in the near future.

Salary will depend on qualifications and experience and will be based on a 3-point scale.

The Barnet Petty Sessions Area with the South Mimses Petty Sessions Division has a population of approximately 35,000, which makes this Area the largest in Outer London. There are two Court Houses, one at Barnet and one at Hendon. A Unisys Computer is installed and the Administration is in the process of computerisation. Barnet is a very busy Area and there will be opportunities to gain experience in all areas of the work of a Court's Administration and Management.

The Conditions of JNC apply to this post which is superannuable and subject to medical fitness. Removal and disturbance expenses are payable in approved cases. Application forms and further particulars can be obtained from me at 10 High Street, Barnet, Herts, EN5 5UE (Tel: 01-441-0340 Ext 13/134).

Closing date: 9th November 1987

C.L. Pratt
Clerk to the Committee

AFRC INSTITUTE OF FOOD RESEARCH
NORWICH LABORATORY
Process Engineering & Technology Department
HEAD OF DEPARTMENT
(Unified Grade 6)

An engineer with research and inventive skills is required to lead an active department of scientists and engineers engaged in research and invention linked to the requirements of the food and allied industries.

The laboratory is looking to extend its strategic and applied programme in process engineering and someone with strong leadership, entrepreneurial skills and vision is required. Basic qualification in chemical, control, electronic or manufacturing systems engineering or physical science could all be appropriate. Relevant industrial experience will be an advantage. Of importance is a sound understanding of fundamental issues that influence manufacturing industry and a creative and inventive approach linked with an ability to motivate staff in an already strong and enthusiastic Department.

Staff in the Process Engineering & Technology Department total 53 and the research programme covers solids processing and extrusion technology, Emulsion Processing and Bioraction Engineering, Separation Processing using supercritical fluids and Sensors for process control, Process Systems engineering, food storage and packaging. Food Process Engineering and Manufacturing Technology are recognised as important areas and further development is for discussion with the successful applicant.

The Norwich Laboratory is housed in excellent buildings adjacent to the University of East Anglia and the John Innes Institute. The ARC Institute of Food Research comprises laboratories in Norwich, Bristol and Reading, and contributes the major effort in the Agricultural and Food Research Council's programme of food research.

The salary range for this appointment is £18,786 - £25,333 and there is a non-contributory superannuation scheme.

The Agricultural and Food Research Council is an Equal Opportunities Employer. Further particulars and application form from:

The Secretary, Institute of Food Research
Norwich Laboratory Colney Lane
Norwich NR4 7UA
quoting Ref: N87/1.

THE ROYAL COLLEGE OF GENERAL PRACTITIONERS
ACCOUNTS MANAGER

Salary £11,000 - £13,800 pa (inc LW)

The College is a rapidly expanding organisation and we are now seeking to appoint an Accounts Manager to take responsibility for the College's Main Accounts.

The post also involves contributing to the production of budgetary control statements and ad-hoc financial reports. The post holder will be expected to contribute to the development of a new software financial package.

You will be a qualified accountant or a Member of the Chartered Institute of Secretaries (or a finalist), with experience of financial software packages. You are a self starter who is seeking a post in a stimulating and changing environment.

Applicants should send full personal and career details to:

The Establishment Officer,
The Royal College of General Practitioners,
14 Princes Gate,
London SW7 1PU,
from whom further particulars are available.
Tel: 01-581 3232 x 256
Please quote Ref 42/DC.
Closing date 16th November 1987



Publicity Officer

The Central Office of Information - the British Government's publicity organisation - has a vacancy for a Media Training Officer.

The successful candidate will join the department's Information Studies Unit to plan, manage and act as Lecturer for a wide range of publicity training courses for officials of overseas governments, UK Information staff and Diplomatic Service Officers.

He/she must have experience in one or more communication skills, journalism, publication production, public relations etc, and knowledge of overseas media would be an advantage.

Candidates should be effective organisers, able to plan well ahead, and convey their media expertise to a wide variety of course members of varying backgrounds and nationalities.

The successful candidate will join the Government Information Service with opportunities for career development and promotion in Government departments and agencies mainly in London.

The post is graded Information Officer: Salary scale £11,619 to £13,970 (including Inner London Weighting). Starting salary depends on experience and qualifications.

Please send a postcard for an application form to:

Miss C. Richards, HR 827, Central Office of Information, Hercules Road, London SE1 7DU quoting Ref No 457/NTC87. The closing date for returned forms is 13 November 1987.

**GOVERNMENT
INFORMATION
SERVICE**

The Civil Service is an Equal Opportunities Employer.

North East London Polytechnic
DIRECTOR
OF THE NELS SCHOOL OF
BUSINESS AND MANAGEMENT

The Polytechnic is seeking to appoint a Director for the newly established School of Business and Management, which has been formed through the amalgamation of a number of existing departments.

The new Director's responsibilities will extend to courses at both the Polytechnic's main premises, at West Ham, and at Barking. Applicants should be well qualified academically, and should possess proven experience in the fields of management, business or commerce, together with the capacity to initiate and develop appropriate courses and consultancies within the new School. The title of Professor may in certain circumstances be conferred on the new Director.

Salary scale: HOD VI + Dean's Allowance - £22,179-£24,180 inclusive of London Weighting.

For further details and application form please contact the Polytechnic Personnel Office, Romford Road, Stratford, London E15 4LZ. Tel: 01-580 7722 ext. 4085, quoting reference 21/A/87. Closing date 10 days from publication.

Assessing
the City's
benefits

If among your A-level results there is a good grade in maths, you could use it as your first step towards a highly lucrative and absorbing career, by training for the actuarial profession - one of the best paid in the country - or making it the basis of an equally rewarding City career. This applies whether or not you take a degree, but the prospects and choices are better if you graduate first.

The two careers have several similarities: both are well paid; each needs a high standard of numeracy, of which A-level maths is reliable indicator and, as both are looking for talented entrants, recruitment for the one impinges to some extent upon the other. The City's popularity may, however, have taken something of a knock recently.

"Big Bang has affected our recruitment because people know they can get good, well-paid jobs in the City, straight from university," says John Waugh, deputy secretary of the Institute of Actuaries (IA). "But this may mean they are 'burnt out' by the time they are 30. We advise them to look beyond being in 30."

A year before Big Bang, the IA and the Faculty of Actuaries in Scotland introduced an intensive, one year, full-time postgraduate diploma course at the City University, London, and Heriot-Watt University, Edinburgh, to prepare students for the earlier qualifying exams, so that good trainees should not be put off by lack of formal training and in order to reduce the qualifying time.

Applicants should have a good honours degree in a course with adequate mathematical content. They are usually sponsored by an actuarial firm, which pays their fees and a maintenance allowance in return for at least two years' service after the course.

Although most applicants do have maths, statistics or actuarial science as their degree subject, these are not the only choices. The former chief executive of a large insurance company graduated in divinity. A partner in an actuarial consultancy took music. The chief general manager of a major insurance company chose modern languages. Economics is another possibility, while some entrants have no degree.

What is important is A-level maths at a good grade, to enable you to cope with the exams of the IA or the faculty. Similarly, good openings in the City are not limited to maths, statistics or science graduates, although these are needed. However, economists, linguists, people with degrees in arts, politics or computer studies are also welcome, but should preferably have A-level maths.

HORIZONS

A guide to
career opportunities



For non-graduates, too, this is a good, basic entry requirement. In some City firms it can lead to an assistant's job in any of the major departments - corporate finance, bonds, equities, asset management, research - while in others A-level entrants start in settlement. In either case, with aptitude they can progress and, generally, move around.

Graduates also train on the job, for up to two years but at a higher level, and are encouraged to take early responsibility. Personal qualities are important, whether you have a degree or not.

"We don't take only high flyers, we look for ability," says Isabel Doversy, recruitment and development manager at Phillips and Drew. "We need self-motivated, well-rounded people with an interest in the City. Some will be school-leavers and here maths A-level is the favourite."

"We are increasingly interested in intelligent, A-level people," says Mr Paul Thompson, assistant director in Inter-

If you are strong on
maths, perhaps you
might calculate the
benefits of a career in
the City - or insuring its
plans, says Sally Watts

national Equities at Barclays de Zoete Wedd. "There are golden opportunities in settlement: many offices have a backlog and are introducing computerized systems."

Nearly half of BZW's latest graduate intake were women. "Our new entrants will be dealing with clients eight hours a day so they must be good conversationalists with wide interests, enthusiastic and able to generate confidence and get on with people."

The qualities of an actuary are rather different. Many are helping to run multi-million pound businesses. Some are in the Government Actuary's department, advising on retirement and sickness benefits or public service pensions schemes. About 100 work on the Stock Exchange, giving investment advice or specializing in investment analysis and research. Some are university lecturers while others work abroad.

In this country an actuary can earn

somewhere near £30,000 within about five years of completing his training, and a top salary can be £60,000 or higher.

It is then possible to prepare for the remaining, less mathematical exams - insurance, pensions, life assurance and investment - in two to three years in tandem with a job, using the IA or faculty's correspondence courses, supplemented in England by tutorials. In Scotland, the faculty arranges discussion classes in Glasgow and Edinburgh, where most of their students are based.

But the majority work through all the exams as employees, using correspondence and day release, though Heriot-Watt runs regular classes for new graduates in Edinburgh life offices, again on a day release basis.

School students should note that courses which include actuarial science, leading to exemptions from some of the qualifying exams, are offered by the City University, London School of Economics, Heriot-Watt and the University of Kent. Exeter and Southampton have courses with elementary actuarial studies. Pure statistics are at Birmingham, London and Sheffield, while Bristol and Exeter students can specialize in statistics in several maths courses. Brunel, Warwick and Birmingham have relevant combined studies.

Tempting as it sounds to shorten your study time via the diploma course, some young actuaries consider the longer route is better because they can relate their job to their studies, and vice versa.

"I would prefer to be in a company and get experience," says 26-year-old David Hindley who, ironically, took a salary cut when he started actuarial training after two years as a medical statistician. He is part of a team with Mercantile and General Reinsurance Company, providing a service to underwriters by producing computer programmes, which are compatible for the user.

Two years after qualifying, Jane Curtis, a Fellow of the Institute of Actuaries, is advising client firms on the new pensions legislation for the City employers, Bacon and Woodrow, where she began as an 18-year-old, learning and doing routine calculations between school and university.

The IA confirms that in 1986 23 per cent of students were female, contrasting with only 2 per cent in the 1950s.

● Faculty of Actuaries, 23 St Andrew Square, Edinburgh EH2 1AQ.

● Institute of Actuaries, Staple Inn Hall, High Holborn, London WC1V 7JQ.

Appeals
Director

Phoenix House is a national charity, established 1970, helping to rehabilitate drug users; it is developing exciting new programmes of practical initiatives; and to progress these it now needs a dynamic professional to mastermind capital fund-raising, initially in the South East.

Applicants must offer successful achievement in appeal work, marketing or related disciplines, impressive personal, organisational and entrepreneurial gifts, and a commitment to the aims of Phoenix House.

Starting salary negotiable £18-20K plus benefits. Based South East London.

Write in confidence with full CV to: Alan Finch, Charity Appointments, 3 Spital Yard, Bishopsgate, London E1 6AQ.

Charity
Appointments

A registered charity providing selection services to the voluntary sector

Rother District Council

PRINCIPAL
SOLICITOR

£15,162 - £16,368 p.a.

THE AUTHORITY

Rother is an attractive mixture of town and country in the heart of the 1066 area of East Sussex. It has an area of almost 200 square miles with an extensive coastline and includes the seaside town of Bexhill-on-Sea, the historic town of Battle and some of the most beautiful countryside, most of which is within an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty.

THE DEPARTMENT

The recent reorganisation of the Administrative and Legal Services Division of the Chief Executive and Clerk's Department has resulted in a vacancy for a Principal Solicitor to take on a varied workload.

THE POST

The postholder will be responsible for the provision of legal advice to Senior Officers and members generally and to the Housing Services Committee and the Recreation and Tourism Committees particularly. The duties of the post will also include conveying and control work, together with the drafting of subordinate legislation. On occasions, the successful applicant will deputise for the Secretary, who is Solicitor to the Council, and will report directly to him on all matters.

THE PERSON

Applicants, who may have a Local Government or private practice background should be Solicitors with not less than 5 years post-qualification experience. A generous relocation package is available to the right person.

THE NEXT STEP

An application form and further details are available from the Personnel and Management Services Office, Town Hall, Bexhill-on-Sea, East Sussex, TN39 3JX. Telephone: Bexhill 216321, Ext. 290. The closing date for the receipt of applications is the 9th November, 1987.

IGSA THE INSTITUTE OF
CHARTERED SECRETARIES
AND ADMINISTRATORS
COMMERCIAL SERVICES OFFICER &
PROFESSIONAL SERVICES OFFICER

IGSA the leading professional body for company secretaries and administrators in the UK has two vacancies.

The first in its newly created Commercial Services Department involves acting as secretary to companies being formed by the Institute to pursue commercial ventures in the publishing, software, and distance learning fields. Responsibilities will include incorporation, statutory secretarial work, financial management and contract administration.

The second is for a senior member of the Professional Services Department to assume responsibility for specialist panels of members employed as company secretaries, partnership secretaries and pension administrators and those involved in European affairs. The work involves generating ideas and acting as Secretary for regular Panel meetings, the drafting of policy documents and submissions and the organisation of seminars. This is a key area for the promotion of the Institute and an interest in policy matters affecting the profession is crucial.

Applicants should preferably be members of the Institute or finalists, with relevant experience gained in a company secretarial or commercial administration environment. Good written and oral communication skills are essential.

For the Commercial Services Officer a salary between £10-12,000 pa is envisaged. The Professional Services Officer carries a salary of between £12-15,000. Please apply in writing to the Institute of Chartered Secretaries and Administrators, 16 Park Crescent, London W1N 4AH, tel. 01 580 4741, marking your replies Confidential - Commercial Services Officer/Professional Services Officer.

Further details are available from Mark Selby (ext 132) and Gillian Bloomfield (ext 127).

Closing date 2nd November 1987.

Suffolk County Council

CHIEF EXECUTIVE AND COUNTY
CLERK'S DEPARTMENT
Purchasing and SuppliesSenior Buyer A285
£11,322 to £13,173

A challenging opportunity has been created by the promotion of the existing postholder to head his own purchasing unit with another Authority. A career-minded professional buyer is now required to fill this vacancy in the purchasing and supplies management team and will be expected to contribute new ideas and enthusiasm to the function's commitment to improving the service it gives and in the provision of value for money from its £27 million expenditure.

In addition to broad based purchasing experience in either industry or the public sector, you should have the ability to manage and motivate a team of buyers, have a dynamic approach to negotiation, be able to communicate at all levels and have a strong commitment to professional purchasing.

You will preferably be educated to degree/NVQ level and be a member of the IPS.

In addition to the salary shown above a casual car allowance and generous relocation expenses are available in appropriate cases.

For an informal discussion on this post telephone Peter Howarth on Ipswich 230000, ext. 4428.

Further particulars and an application form are obtainable from the Chief Executive and County Clerk, St Helen Court, County Hall, Ipswich, IP4 2LS (Tel. Ipswich 230000, ext. 4428). Closing date: November 24.

01-481 4481

LEGAL APPOINTMENTS

01-481 4481

TRUSTS AND TAX
LONDON AND THE THAMES VALLEY
£ Highly Competitive

Our client is a dynamic and progressive medium sized legal firm with expanding offices in London and Reading.

The long-term development of the practice has created outstanding opportunities for bright young lawyers within the firm's thriving financial services group, which has built up an enviable reputation for the provision of high-quality trust and tax advice, both in London and throughout the Thames Valley region.

We have been retained to recruit high-calibre trust and tax solicitors/legal executives who can demonstrate either relevant experience in the field of private client work or the ability to learn.

The LONDON OFFICE is currently seeking a recently admitted SOLICITOR to join the financial services group, handling specialist matters, working closely with the Tax Partner.

In the first instance, please contact Rachel Caine or Matthew Rogers.

The READING OFFICE is seeking a newly/recently qualified LAWYER to take up a challenging role involving estate planning, acting for both private and corporate clients. As this post develops, there will be an increasing amount of responsibility and autonomy for the successful individual. In addition, there is a vacancy for a TRUST MANAGER to take charge of a portfolio of private and charitable trusts, including some probate. Candidates for this position need not be qualified, but must have several years' relevant tax and trust experience, gained within the legal profession.

The firm can offer substantial financial rewards to the selected individuals, along with excellent prospects for long-term career development.

CORPORATE
FINANCE
LEADING CITY FIRM
£18-£45,000

Our client, a well established dynamic practice in seeking lawyers, either as or with up to 3 years experience, for its expanding corporate finance department. Good academic credentials, determination and strong interpersonal skills are essential in this demanding environment. Successful candidates will be involved in a variety of work to include: M&A; Issuances; takeovers; venture capital and general corporate advice.

MANAGERS -
CORPORATE FINANCE
From £35,000 + Bonus + Bens

We are currently acting on behalf of a variety of well-established financial institutions, who seek experienced corporate financiers to join their existing teams at managerial level. Applicants should have a professional qualification and a good first degree, and are likely to be aged 30 or over with at least 3-5 years experience gained within the corporate finance department of a Bank or Broker.

For details of these and many other positions in Private Practice and Banking, please contact Judith Farmer.

COMMERCE AND
INDUSTRY
COMMERCIAL LAWYER
£25,000 + Bens

Our client, a major oil company seeks a motivated lawyer with up to three years ppe to undertake a range of challenging company commercial work. The successful applicant, with strong interpersonal skills, will be involved in company formations, acquisitions, disposals and some employment law. Hard work and commitment will be rewarded with a generous remuneration package.

COMPANY/
COMMERCIAL LAWYERS
£20-£50,000 + Bens

We act on behalf of a wide range of clients, from established blue chip organisations to smaller successful companies - who are presently seeking lawyers with strong academic backgrounds and good interpersonal skills. There are exciting opportunities for ambitious lawyers and highly competitive salaries are offered together with good career prospects.

For further details please contact Lisa Wilson or Robert Drury.

PRIVATE PRACTICE
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Central London

We are currently recruiting quality lawyers at all levels for conveyancing posts with a number of leading firms. A variety of work ranges from residential conveyancing to complex commercial transactions and generous remuneration is available.

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A leading City firm is seeking high calibre lawyers for its expanding company/commercial department. If you have at least two years experience and an ambitious outlook, the post offers excellent prospects.

LITIGATION
W1

An expanding West End firm seeks experienced Assistant Solicitors to handle a wide range of civil, commercial and contract matters. A competitive salary and benefits are offered.

For details of these and many other positions, contact Lucy Hartley.

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TELEPHONE: 01-583 0073 OR 01-587 0208 (EVENINGS & WEEKENDS)

THE SCOTTISH
OPTION

LAW

The challenges for the corporate or property development lawyer in Scotland are every bit as exhilarating as those for his City counterpart. £80 billion of the funds under management in the UK are not managed in the City. They are managed in Scotland where there are some 240 insurance, banking, fund management and financial service companies.

Edinburgh is regarded as the second financial capital in Europe while Glasgow is the home of the largest independent Scottish fund management group. In the current Scottish climate of mergers and acquisitions, flotations, institutional investment and a buoyant property scene, there are excellent opportunities to combine stimulating work with real quality of life.

Five major Scottish legal firms are coming together at London's Waldorf Hotel to recruit energetic and ambitious corporate, commercial and property lawyers (wherever qualified) preferably with at least two years experience. These firms will present an invaluable insight into the types of work, salary expectations, career development prospects and living standards in Scotland.

There will also be an opportunity to discuss the various possibilities over a glass of wine with partners from the visiting firms.

SCOTTISH
PRESENTATION

at
THE WALDORF HOTEL
The Charter II Suite
Aldwych, London

on
Thursday 12th November 1987
6.30 pm-9.00 pm

For further information and to book a place contact the organisers:

Margaret Scullard
Legal Staff Appointments
63 George Street
Edinburgh
Tel: 031-226 6222

David Wilson
Law Placements
107/111 Fleet Street
London
Tel: 01-353 5498

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Slaughter and May are looking for energetic young solicitors to work in their Property Department. The firm handles a wide range of commercial property work including institutional investment and development projects, commercial lettings and mortgages.

Salary and benefits will be attractive and will take full account of age and experience.

Applicants, who should be able to mix well into a friendly and hard working environment, should apply with full C.V. quoting ref PMJ2 to:-

Peter Morley-Jacob,
Slaughter and May,
35 Basinghall Street, London EC2V 5DB

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WORK IN COLCHESTER !
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Tel : 0206 44434

We are an eight partner firm with a substantial practice and will offer excellent salaries to both a well qualified solicitor with partnership potential and a competent and energetic executive.

Apply to G Stewart or C Penfold

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Our client, a major City firm is offering an attractive salary to someone with between 1-7 years PQE in both the contentious and non-contentious areas of construction law. The more senior candidate will be sure of early prospects.

COMMERCIAL LITIGATION c£21K
A well-established City firm offers a challenging workload, suitably remunerated to attract an ambitious well rounded commercial litigator admitted about two years.

COMMERCIAL CONVEYANCING To £35K
A progressive City practice has instructed us to introduce a solicitor with expertise in heavyweight commercial matters. The salary package available will attract a high calibre applicant with upwards of 2 years PQE.

COMPANY COMMERCIAL & ATTRACTIVE
A central London practice wishes to appoint a solicitor of around 6 years PQE to head the company commercial department. Obviously some Yellow Book knowledge would be an additional advantage. The appointee will be someone displaying entrepreneurial traits and ready for imminent partnership.

PLANNING To £26K
For an ambitious and energetic lawyer with up to 3 years relevant experience in London or out of town an attractive package is offered by a City firm renowned in this field. The work involves all aspects of town and country planning law for clients of distinction and substance. Prospects are richly rewarding.

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FOR KEY LEGAL ROLE

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The Solicitor will perform legal advisory duties particularly in relation to stock market flotation plans in early 1988, and play a key role in the disposals/acquisitions involved in the dramatic restructuring of the company.
This should provide a strong foundation for a move within the Macpherson Group to a commercial post or for a wider legal post within industry.
Macpherson Plc, a £100 million turnover group, manufactures decorative and industrial paints.

To apply, please send a detailed CV to:
Group Personnel Manager, Macpherson Plc, Rookwood Way,
Haverhill, Suffolk, CB9 6PG. 0448 706655

PUBLIC
APPOINTMENTSAPPOINTMENT OF
THE DIRECTOR,
THE B.A.S.C.

The British Association for Shooting and Conservation (B.A.S.C.) invites applications for the post of The Director, to work alongside the present incumbent until the latter's retirement in August 1988.

The B.A.S.C., with its National H.Q. at Rossett, Chwyd, has a membership approaching 100,000 and an annual turnover of over £1M with a full time staff of 55 and a regional office structure. The Director is the Association's Chief Executive and responsible to the Chairman and Council for:

- Development of the association and its representative work for shooting and conservation in both the EEC and overseas.
 - Control of financial performance, and forward planning.
 - Serving the membership and working closely with related organisations, and Governments, nationally and internationally.
- Relevant qualifications include a thorough knowledge of sporting shooting together with experience and an appreciation of field sports, the countryside and conservation.

The successful applicant will have a proven record in senior management, public speaking, leadership at all levels and, above all, judgement and tact.

Salary by negotiation plus motor vehicle and other benefits.

Written applications only in strict confidence with outline C.V. and recent photograph to: The Chairman, B.A.S.C., The Old Hall, Great Budworth, Nr. Northwich, Cheshire CW9 6HP by November 30th 1987.

Oxford City
Council

An Equal Opportunities Employer
LICENSING OFFICER

£01 £11,070-£11,805 per annum

This post is in the Department of Engineering and Recreation dealing with the administration and control of Licensing and Private Hire Licensing and enforcement.

The officer appointed will be self motivated, able to work clearly and concisely, have the ability to communicate effectively with people at all levels, as well as being able to enforce local policy and the law. Knowledge of the legislation governing the administration and control of licensing and private hire is essential. Some evening and night work is necessary, payment for which is reflected in the grade of the post. Closing Date: 30 November 1987.

Temporary housing accommodation may be available subject to circumstances and reduction expenses up to £2000 will be paid.

Job share applicants, with or without partners will be considered for all full time posts.

Places in a nursery run by the Oxford City Nursery Association may be available for children aged 4 months to 4 years.

Oxford City Council welcomes applications from all sections of the community which are considered on their suitability for the post, irrespective of ethnic origin, marital status, gender, disability and from gay men and lesbians.

Applications forms and further particulars are available from the Personnel Officer, 28-29 St. Oswald Street, Oxford OX1 2JF. Your CV will be received by the recruitment service.

NEW SOUTH WALES GOVERNMENT OFFICE, LONDON
BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT OFFICER

£18,800 - £18,500 per annum
(presently under review)

The New South Wales Government Office, London wishes to appoint a Business Development Officer to its Investment and Trade Advisory Service, for the U.K. and Europe to:

- * promote investment and trade opportunities in New South Wales;
- * analyse industry trends in the U.K., Europe and Australia;
- * develop and evaluate specific investment programmes;
- * assist in the provision of the Business Migration Programme.

Essential requirements for the position are experience and proven ability in marketing and promotion. Appropriate tertiary qualifications and a knowledge of Australia is highly desirable.

The appointee will be required to travel throughout the U.K. and Europe.

Applications in writing, with names and addresses of two referees, and marked confidential, should be sent by 30th October, to The Secretary, New South Wales House, 98 Strand, London, WC2N 6LZ.

BTG
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The British Technology Group (BTG) licenses UK technology worldwide and finances UK industry in its technology-based developments. It is exciting, challenging and rewarding work in which a high quality legal contribution is vital in safeguarding the commercial interests of BTG, particularly in the high risk/high return areas of intellectual property and venture capital. You will work with a wide cross-section of people in industry, finance, academia and government - nationally and internationally.

We offer a stimulating environment for lawyers with experience in some or all of the following areas: patent licensing, joint venture agreements, company, competition and bankruptcy law; revenue sharing agreements; contract law. The work will involve occasional overseas travel. Career prospects are excellent and salaries will be competitive.

We can also provide a valuable training ground for young, newly qualified solicitors for progression into corporate and commercial law.

Write now to the Personnel Manager with full CV, including salary, or contact her for an application form. British Technology Group, 101 Newington Causeway, London SE1 6BU. Tel: 01-403 6666.

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Not less than £15,000 pa

Newly or recently admitted Solicitor required by small friendly practice. Excellent opportunity to develop conveyancing experience. Salary according to age and experience but not less than £15,000 pa.

Please tel or write to: Mr P J Castledien, Wood & Sons,
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Tel: 01- 658 2266.

LEGAL APPOINTMENTS

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The Solicitors Department within the Corporation of Lloyd's is involved in a wide range of activities, providing general legal advice on commercial and regulatory matters to the administrative arm of the Lloyd's insurance market. Our responsibilities include the drafting of subordinate legislation and conducting both investigatory and disciplinary proceedings within the Lloyd's community. If legal proceedings are brought by or against Lloyd's, we act on behalf of the corporation.

We are presently seeking three people, each of whom should have qualified either as a Barrister or Solicitor.

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To supervise and handle a wide range of commercial and company work.

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(Qualified for approximately 2 years). To handle a wide range of commercial work together with some legislative drafting.

Barrister or Solicitor

(With at least 5 years' experience of advocacy in criminal law and/or civil litigation). To work in investigations and prosecutions, including advocacy, before Lloyd's internal tribunals. Cases are often complex; numeracy and attention to detail are essential.

We are offering salaries of up to £30,000 (according to age and experience) plus car. Benefits include mortgage assistance, non-contributory pension, private and permanent health insurance, season ticket loan and subsidised lunches.

Please send written applications with full C.V. to Christopher Hooper, Personnel Department, Lloyd's, London House, 6 London Street, London EC3 7AB.

Law Report October 27 1987

Test tube baby treatment claim fails

Regina v Ethical Committee of St Mary's Hospital, Ex parte Harriot

Before Mr Justice Schiemann [Judgment October 26]

Doctors who decided that a woman should be refused in vitro fertilization (IVF) treatment because of the refusal of the social services department to consider her for adoption, and of her history of prostitution and associated criminal record had not, on the evidence, acted unfairly. Further, there had been no obligation on the infertility services and ethical committee of the hospital to advise on whether or not the woman should be given IVF treatment.

Mr Justice Schiemann so held in the Queen's Bench Division in refusing applications by Janet Harriot for judicial review of decisions of Dr Pamela Buck and Dr B. A. Lieberman of St Mary's Hospital, Manchester and for judicial review of the advice and guidance of the Ethical Committee of St Mary's Hospital.

Mr Louis Blom-Cooper, QC and Mr Edward Fitzgerald for the applicant; Mr Roger Bell,

QC and Mr Bruce Canfield for the health authority.

MR JUSTICE SCHIEMANN said that it had not been suggested that the general policy pursued by the regional IVF unit that couples accepted on to the waiting list must, in the ordinary course of events, satisfy the general criteria established by adoption societies in assessing suitability for adoption.

The ethical committee had been set up in the spirit of the Report of the Committee of the Inquiry into Human Fertilisation and Embryology (Cmd 9314) (the Warnock Report).

There had been no statutory duty to set up the committee and there was no statutory duty imposed on the committee either to decide or advise. It was essentially an informal body with the function of providing a forum for discussion among professionals.

His Lordship was doubtful about accepting that judicial review did not lie to review any advice of the committee, but this case did not involve such a situation. Here the complaint was that the committee advised that the consultant must make up her own mind as to whether the treatment should be given.

That was wholly unobjectionable.

It followed that there could be no objection that the committee did not afford the applicant an opportunity of putting evidence and submissions before it. If the committee was entitled not to give advice the court should be slow, if indeed it had the power, to force such a committee to receive representations before it decided not to give advice.

The complaint against the consultant was that she had been under a duty to act fairly when deciding to remove a patient from the IVF list on social grounds, either exclusively or mainly, and those social grounds involved issues of contested fact.

For the purposes of this judgment his Lordship was prepared to accept that that submission was correct in law. But even on that assumption there were no grounds for granting relief.

There were indeed grounds for criticism of Dr Buck's decisions. However, it had to be remembered that decisions by doctors as to whether to give or refuse treatment were not ones which, once made, rendered the doctor powerless to change her

view in the light of new arguments or facts.

The applicant, since the decision, had had the opportunity to put more information in front of the doctors and health authority. There was no reason to suppose that they had acted unfairly in the matter or had shut their ears to her representations in the sense of being unwilling to entertain them. It was not and could not be suggested that no reasonable consultant could have come to the conclusion to refuse treatment to the applicant.

In those circumstances there was no reason to grant the applicant the relief sought. In consequence his Lordship did not need to decide whether in principle judicial review would lie in respect of such a decision.

Solicitors: Hepworth & Halpern, Manchester; Mr E. G. Jones, Manchester.

Law Society exams

The Law Society examination results will be published in *The Times* on October 30. Copies of that issue will be on sale at 200 Gray's Inn Road from 9.30pm on Thursday, October 29.

Probate/Trusts

£ Package Excellent.

Our Client, a well established and progressive medium sized London firm requires a Lawyer to join their private client department to deal with all aspects of probate, trusts and personal tax planning.

This stimulating opportunity might well suit those wishing to expand their experience where future prospects await the successful appointee.

Candidates are asked to contact us in confidence.

LEGAL SELECTION

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There are definite partnership prospects for the successful applicant.

Please apply with full C.V. to: Jerome K. O'Callaghan, Merriman White & Co., Merlins House, 37 Guildford Road, Lightwater, Surrey GU18 5BA.

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The Legal function within the TSB Group provides a comprehensive service to all components of the Group. Owing to increasing demand for legal services, exciting opportunities exist for ambitious lawyers to handle a wide variety of high quality work.

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- * Company/Commercial
- * Banking/Corporate Finance
- * Consumer/Sales Finance
- * Commercial Property



These positions are at different

levels of seniority within the Group. At the higher levels relevant previous experience is essential and at other levels knowledge of the financial services sector would be useful.

A competitive salary package, including a company car at the higher levels, will be offered and all posts provide excellent opportunities for career progression.

For further information please telephone Steven Grubb on 01-831 2000 or write to him at Michael Page Partnership, 39-41 Parker Street, London WC2B 5LH. Strictest confidentiality assured.

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to £17,500

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If you're ambitious to develop your career within the industrial sector, this could be just the opportunity you need.

Our client is a major manufacturing company with significant interests throughout the UK. This generates a challenging and highly varied workload for their Legal Department, specifically within the areas of property, contract drafting and negotiation, employment and health and safety legislation.

It is therefore the perfect environment for a graduate with a minimum of 2-3 years' post qualifying experience to develop their corporate legal skills.

The position will call for a high level of self-motivation, adaptability and strong commercial

instinct. The personal attributes to operate at senior levels within the company are essential, and you will need a sound knowledge of property law and experience of conveyancing.

In return there will be a valuable benefits package, excellent training and a salary that will be regularly reviewed to reflect fully your contribution. So step up to increased challenges, more job satisfaction and a better career, by calling John White on 01-631 4411 during office hours, or write to him enclosing a full C.V. at Moxon Dolphin & Kerby, 178-202 Great Portland Street, London W1A 6JJ. Please quote reference 4006.

Our client is an equal opportunities employer where all vacancies are open to both men and women regardless of ethnic origin.

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Commercial Manager

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Isle of Wight

c. £20K + benefits

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This growth has created the new role of Commercial Manager who will report into the Marketing Director.

Please write with a comprehensive CV to: Maureen Adamson, Personnel Manager, PBN, Bittern, Isle of Wight PO35 5PR.

You will be responsible for a small team who handle all contractual, financial and administrative aspects of our marketing activities. Key tasks will include contract negotiation, marketing administration and financing sales through banks, ECGD and other financial institutions.

You should have at least 3 years' commercial experience, ideally in international high technology capital equipment sales, including proven experience of formulating and negotiating contracts, dealing with government departments and financial institutions.

Qualified to degree level in a legal/business discipline and aged 25-45, you should be keen to make a challenging and positive career move upwards.



**Fielder
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صالح من الاعمال

YACHTING

Wit and wisdom of a wily sailor

By Barry Pickhall

Cudmore and the America's Cup by Malcolm McKee (Kingswood Press, £12.95)

Harold Cudmore is the highly successful Irish offshore racing skipper whose wit and sharp tongue have won him admirers as well as enemies in equal measure. A new biography, to be published next week, on this colourful yachtsman and his so far unsuccessful forays for the America's Cup will undoubtedly add to the list of subjects particularly among the Royal Thames Yacht Club, under whose burgee the Irishman headed the last of Britain's ill-fated assaults for the "Auld Mug".

It was a campaign marred by lack of funds, sailing time - and, according to Cudmore, by hostility from members of the syndicate's own promoting club. In this book, written by fellow Irishman Malcolm McKee, Cudmore reveals the club's difficult financial situation and the city members of failing to support the Crusader syndicate during the early stages, when a solid front was essential to attract the sponsorship money that came too late.

The book claims that three members in particular - John Foot, John Macdonald and Stephen James - masterminded an attempt to close the campaign down, apparently because it was felt it was going to be ill-prepared and its performance in the final stages would be a disgrace to the club's name.

If this is the case, they were proved right of course, but as the book rightly points out, the most positive attitude from the west might well have encouraged the necessary success.

Cudmore is also disparaging about his earlier America's Cup boss, Peter de Savary. According to Cudmore, de Savary's best idea is always his last one. "His principle inability is to make long-term plans and have the consistency of view to see them through."

McKee adds the rider that "it is unlikely that Cudmore would want to have a great deal to do with de Savary's campaign which is probably just as well. There is every indication that between the two men, feelings are mutual."

Dismissing the illusion that Britain's White Horse challenge (at least, with Cudmore) will ever join forces with de Savary's present Blue Arrow Cup challenge.

A book filled with anecdotes, humour and cutting phrases, and well worth a read.

Keats secures her place

Ann Keats (née Fryer), who gave up high level tennis three years ago, has returned to the international scene in triumph. With three consecutive wins out of four races at the women's selection trials at Hove, Keats has secured her place in the British team to the women's world championships in Brazil in February. Also sailing for Britain, in the 470 class, will be Debbie Jarvis and crew Sue Hay.

PROVISIONAL OVERALL RESULTS: 470 class: 1. S. Keats, 2. S. Hay, 3. S. Keats, 4. S. Keats, 5. S. Keats, 6. S. Keats, 7. S. Keats, 8. S. Keats, 9. S. Keats, 10. S. Keats.

Reid can rest easy at the head of affairs

From John Hennessy
La Manga, Spain

Dale Reid, of Scotland, arrived at this Mediterranean golfing Mecca after a 17-hour journey from London. She will hardly be in the best condition for the last tournament of the season, the Qualifier Spanish women's Open starting today, but fortunately she will have to do little more than go through the motions in order to confirm her place at the head of the Woolmark Order of Merit and so claim a bonus of £6,000 to add to the £15,565 she has already amassed.

Last year, Laura Davies, the United States Open champion, spent past Lord's Neumann, of Sweden, here to take first prize, but the task this time seems beyond her. Supposing Miss Davies were to win here, Miss Reid would still only have to be among the 40 players who survive the 36-hole cut to maintain her lead. The sheer improbability of that may be gauged from the fact that her lowest placing in the last 15 tournaments is 11th.

A number of players are vying for third place in the Order of Merit, carrying not only a bonus of £2,000 but also a coveted place in the Dinah Shore tournament in Palm Springs next April. They include Irish Johnson, a former England amateur champion, and Marie-Laure Taya, who led the individual placings for France in the World Amateur Team Championships. These two have a private issue to settle, as they did at Moor Park on Sunday, when Miss Johnson beat Mrs Taya in the final of the Woolmark Match Play Championship. That left the English player £14 ahead in the tussle for leading newcomer of the year.

The tournament has been confined to 34 holes to allow for a pro-am on Friday.

FOOTBALL

FA Cup draw puts Docherty back into the spotlight

By Paul Newman

Wigan Athletic and Hereford United, who in the 1970s were two of non-League football's most feared FA Cup giant-killers, could find the tables reversed on them next month. In this season's first round, for which the draw was made yesterday, Wigan will travel to Altrincham, who in the last nine seasons have knocked out nine League sides, and Hereford will go to Barnet, currently recognized as the best team in the semi-professional game.

The draw provides a prompt return to the national spotlight for Tommy Docherty, who was appointed manager for Altrincham only a month ago. He will have to be at his inspirational best, however, if he is to maintain the club's Cup tradition. Altrincham, thirteenth in the GM Vauxhall Conference, have lost three of their seven games under his charge.

"We are very much a middle of the table team," he admitted yesterday. "We've suffered from injuries, but we haven't even really got the nucleus of a good side. I want to sign two or three new players as soon as possible."

"Having said that, we could still do well in the Cup, because I've been very impressed with the standards in this league. They are much higher than the fourth division, and not far off the third. Even some second division sides would struggle at this level."

Docherty had first hand experience of Wigan's qualities last season, when he covered part of their FA Cup run to the quarter-finals for local radio. "Ray Mathias has built a very good team and with a bit of luck they would have been in the second division this season," he said.

Everton's hopes of having Kevin Sheedy available for tomorrow night's Littlewoods Cup third round tie, against Liverpool, have ended. The Republic of Ireland international, who underwent an Achilles tendon operation seven weeks ago, had been hoping to return at Anfield but Colin Harvey, the Everton manager, explained: "Kevin is not in contention. He still needs a couple more run-outs before he can be considered for a first team recall."

Craig Johnston is likely to be recalled by Liverpool in place of the £850,000 newcomer Ray Houghton who is cup-tied.

Bournemouth may include David Puckett in their attack against an unchanged Arsenal side at Highbury after just 13 minutes of first team football behind him in the last 10 months. The former Southampton forward may take over from Dave Shearer, who is cup-tied. Puckett suffered a serious leg injury last Boxing Day but has made rapid progress since his one recent appearance as substitute. Shaun Brooks is also likely to be restored after being suspended for the last three matches.

First round draw

Altrincham v Wigan
Barnet v Hereford
Bishop Auckland v Blackpool
Bognor Regis v Torquay
Boston United v Welling
Canterbury
Bradford v Brighton
Bristol City v Aylesbury United
Bristol Rovers v Macclesfield
Bury v Bolton
Cambridge United v Farnborough
Chesham v Bath
Chesham v Runcorn
Colchester v Harrogate
Colchester v Maidstone
Dagenham v Maidstone
Doncaster v Rotherham
Dorchester v Exeter
Halesowen v Kidderminster
Hayes v Swansong
Leiston v Eastleigh
Lincoln v Grimsby
Macclesfield v Carlisle
Northampton v Newport
Northwich Victoria v Colwyn Bay
Notts County v Chesterfield
Peterborough v Cardiff
Preston v Mansfield
Rochdale v Wrexham
Scarborough v Grimsby
Scunthorpe v Bury
Southend v Walsley
Sunderland v Darlington
Telford v Aldershot
Telford v Stockport
Tottenham v Port Vale
VS Rugby v Luton
Walsley v Walsley
Wolves v Cheltenham
Worcester v Yeovil
York v Burton Albion
Ties to be played on November 14

There are several more upsets in prospect, for of 18 non-League clubs drawn against League opposition, 11 are at home. Telford United, who have claimed 10 League scalps in the last five seasons, will be particularly confident of success against Stockport County, whom they have twice knocked out in the first round since 1983. Home advantage could also prove decisive for three more Conference sides, Sutton United, Macclesfield Town and Lincoln City, who face Aldershot, Carlisle United and Crewe Alexandra respectively.

However, the Football Association has written to all the non-League clubs left in the competition, stressing the need for adequate policing and segregation and some venues may need to be changed. Bishop Auckland's committee were meeting last night to discuss sacrificing home advantage against Blackpool and Chorley, who had to play at neutral venues last season, against Wolverhampton Wanderers and Preston North End, for they may have to do so again, against Hartlepool United.

Hayes (against Swansong City) and Billingham Synthonia (against Halifax Town) could face similar problems, but Jack Pearce, the manager of Bognor Regis Town, is confident of staging the tie against Torquay United. "If the FA wants to segregate the supporters, we'll get Torquay's to come in a train and ours can come in a taxi," he said. If Bognor fear they will be short of support, that will not be a problem for Swansong. The third division leaders, Luton, drew a crowd of nearly 20,000 against York City on Saturday and expect better for their North-East derby against Darlington.

Sheedy's hopes of comeback dashed

David Speedie and Dave Phillips have joined Coventry City's growing injury list. They were both hurt in the home defeat by Newcastle United and could be doubtful for the tie against Luton Town being played on Wednesday. Sheffield Wednesday have said that Kevin Road could not accommodate away fans from Coventry.

"Obviously we would much prefer to play at home," the Luton manager, Ray Harford, admitted. "But it was a case of knowing that we played on a neutral ground or didn't go in the cup at all." Harford will be without Ian Allison who is cup-tied having played in the competition.

Both Stoke City and Norwich City are likely to be without key defenders for their tie at The Victoria Ground. As Steve Bould will definitely be missing from the Stoke side with the groin strain which ruled him out of Saturday's goalless draw against Aston Villa, Chris Hemmings continues alongside George Berry. Steve Bruce is the likely Norwich absentee. The Norwich captain was carried off near the end of Saturday's defeat at Sheffield Wednesday.

Barnsley's target is a cup repeat

By Martin Searby

Barnsley anticipate their biggest crowd in 20 years for the visit of Luton Town to the stadium on Wednesday in spite of some indifferent form since they were crowned West Ham 5-2 at Upton Park in the last round of the Littlewoods Cup.

"That was the best performance I have ever managed," Allan Clarke said. "Now in his second spell at Oakwell, Clarke added: "The tie is the one all South Yorkshire has been waiting for. Wednesday cannot be looking forward to the match since their recent new and effective signings, Nigel Pearson from Shrewsbury and Mark Proctor from Scunthorpe, are both cup-tied. But Larry May, the centre half they bought from Barnsley for £250,000 last spring, will be fit to return."

Bradford City, three points clear at the top of the second division, travel to Southport to take on Charlton who are, nominally, only one place above them in bottom spot in the first. Their manager, Terry Dolan, sees the match as a test of the club's new status.

SQUASH RACKETS



Dittmar: splendidly resilient (Photograph: Hugh Routledge)

Australia hoping to miss Pakistan

By Colin McQuillan

If the Australians had a problem in the elimination rounds of the ICI Perspex world team championships, it was maintaining a fierce cutting edge against teams from lesser nations, such as the Dutch squad they brushed aside at Lambis Club yesterday to enter the quarter-final draw today as runaway winners of pool C.

Chris Dittmar, the splendidly resilient, leading finalist of the world open individual event in Birmingham, eased past Hans Frieeling, 9-3, 9-0, 9-3, in 27 minutes at first string, and Chris Robertson, the Australian open champion, finished off Eric Smith, 9-2, 9-0, 9-6, in 24 minutes at third string.

Signs of wandering attention were evident in the spasmodic performance of Rodney Martin, however, as he dropped the second game of a single point and struggled briefly at 7-1 in the third before diving away the Dutch second string, Raymond Scheffer, 9-3, 7-9, 9-2, in 38 minutes.

Martin is the stunning young star from the Australian Institute of Squash, who in July became the second man in six years to defeat Jahangir Khan, whom he is likely to meet again here, either in the final or the semi-final, dependent upon today's draw - because the organizing committee controversially demoted Jahangir to second string after his third successive loss to Jahangir Khan in the Birmingham semi-finals.

CRICKET

Kapil Dev's blows fail to keep India up with run rate

From Alan Lee, Chandigarh

The business-like manner in which Kapil Dev applied the knock-out blows to Zimbabwe at Ahmedabad yesterday suggests that Imran Khan's mischievous views have not found much support within the Indian camp.

Imran, surveying the World Cup scene from a position of enviable strength after leading Pakistan to five straight victories, says he rather fancies the idea of meeting India in the semi-final at Lahore rather than in the Calcutta final. Kapil Dev, you may be sure, can think of nothing worse.

To avoid Pakistan, India must win their group, which is why Kapil Dev, mindful of the run-rate factor, if two teams should tie on points, was anxious to banish poor Zimbabwe with a minimum of fuss. His efforts, however, came a little late.

Until the captain arrived, India had been making stately progress towards Zimbabwe's modest total of 191. Gavaskar had needed 114 deliveries for his 50 and, although Sidhu had been quicker in making his fourth half-century in as many innings (it ended in the same wasteful way as the previous three), there was no great sense of urgency. India seemed intent on nothing beyond victory. Kapil Dev, promoting himself to No. 5, changed the mood entirely, facing only 25 balls for his 41 and finishing the job with a six.

It was a perfectly efficient, untroubled seven-wicket victory but India's run-rate is now fractionally inferior to Australia's and they have only one more match, against New Zealand on Saturday, in which to improve it.

There are still, however, a variety of possible outcomes to Group A. The most intriguing, though probably the least likely, is that India, Australia and New

Zealand could all finish level on 16 points. This option may well disappear in Chandigarh today, when an Australian victory would guarantee a semi-final passage for both themselves and India.

Chandigarh - ironically, Kapil Dev's home town - is the capital of the troubled Punjab, where another six people, some of them terrorists, were shot dead over the weekend. Security will be as stringent today as it was in Delhi last week.

Australia were brought down to earth by India in Delhi after winning two matches they had seemed bound to lose. One of these was against New Zealand, although on the balance of their form, Australia looked clearly the better equipped side. Border, their captain, is likely to experiment with chasing runs again, should he win the toss. He feels his batsmen are happier without a target to confuse them. He, also, may have the dreaded run rate in mind.

Ahmedabad under fire

Ahmedabad (AFP) - Kapil Dev, India's captain, called for a year's ban on staging any international match at the Gujarat Stadium here following the unruly behaviour of a big crowd during his country's World Cup match with Zimbabwe yesterday. At one point the umpires, Dicky Bird and David Archer, had to stop play briefly until spectators desisted from throwing missiles on to the playing area.

John Traicos, the Zimbabwe captain, also expressed his annoyance at the crowd trouble and blamed it for the falling off in the standard of his side's fielding, which has been a feature of the competition.

David Bird, the former Australian Test vice-captain, has been warned he could face disciplinary action if there is a repetition of the dissent he showed after being given out against India last Thursday, when he at first refused to leave the crease for several seconds and then gestured to the crowd, who had been heckling him, as he walked off.

Smaller in all respects

Lloyd Honeyghan will have an American referee for his world welterweight title defence against Jorge Vaca of Mexico at Wembley tomorrow. Henry Elsupre, from California, has been appointed by the World Boxing Council (WBC), which has named Bob Lovell, from Glamorgan, as referee. Elsupre, also from California, and Chuck Hassett, also from the United States, are judges.

Such a fight would normally be one of the big nights of the year, but the crowd at Wembley Grand Hall will be little more than a tenth of the 35,000 who saw Frank Bruno defeat Joe Bugner at White Hart Lane on Saturday. And Honeyghan and Vaca will also be on a fraction of the two heavyweights' earnings - estimated at around £1 million combined.

Honeyghan, aged 27, who moved away from Bruno's stable two years ago because he felt his career was not taking off

there, is fast moving towards the millionaire bracket, however. Part of his contract with his manager, Mickey Duff, the promoter, is that he get a share of the profits. That was a wise move by Honeyghan, because he is on course to become Britain's most successful post-war world champion.

Having achieved what many thought to be the impossible last year by taking the crown off Don Fury, Honeyghan has already made three defences. Victory over Vaca would equal Jim Watt's record since the war.

Joe Bugner slipped quietly out of London yesterday, vowing to return for next month's court battle with his ex-wife, Melody. He has served his court with writ claiming £20,000 maintenance.

The WBC will decide in London this week whether or not to sanction a world heavyweight title fight between Mike Tyson and Larry Holmes.

Interest Rate Change

Allied Irish Banks plc announces that with effect from close of business on 26th October 1987, its Base Rate was decreased from 10% to 9 1/2% p.a.

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ALLIED IRISH BANK

A warm welcome for winner from the Piggott stable



Winning trainer: Mrs Piggott talks with Bryn Crossley at Nottingham

By Dick Hinder and John Goodbody

Susan Piggott yesterday saddled her first winner as a trainer - while her husband was in Norwich prison, three days after being jailed for three years for tax offences.

Division II of the Woodborough Maiden Stakes, the four o'clock race at Nottingham yesterday, was far removed from the glamour of Lester Piggott's triumphs as a jockey and even his 70 winners since he became a trainer two years ago. But there were well-wishers galore to surround his wife as she greeted Turbine Blade in the winner's enclosure.

The biggest cheers of the day came as Tony Ives partnered the 14-1 chance to victory against Zinzia, the Pat Eddery-ridden, odds-on favourite, in the last race. Bryn Crossley, stable jockey at the Piggotts' Eve Lodge yard at Newmarket, jumped off the stable's other representative in the race, Raahin, who finished sixth, to kiss

Mrs Piggott, and her daughter, Maureen, who had tears in her eyes.

"Everybody has been so tremendously supportive and kind to the family. We really do appreciate this," said Mrs Piggott. "I should be going to see Lester later in the week."

Turbine Blade has a good turn of foot and has the makings of a nice horse next year. Of course, he is my favourite horse in the yard now. Anyway, it's another winner for Lester and we shall have a few more runners this season to try to add to our 31 successes, plus seven or eight abroad," she added.

"We shall have a couple of runners at Newmarket and there is a number of factors that will determine how many we have to run at Leicester and Doncaster next week."

It was exactly two years ago that Lester Piggott rode his final winner, Full Choke, at Nottingham before retiring to take up training.

Today's Nottingham programme includes the Full Choke Handicap and the Lester Piggott Final Handicap to commemorate that day. Ironically, Susan Piggott hasn't a runner in either race.

Meanwhile, the Jockey Club yesterday confirmed that it was investigating allegations that Piggott was betting when he was a licensed jockey and that a full study would be made of the court case last week, to see whether the former champion had infringed the rules of racing.

After an emergency meeting in London, the stewards issued a statement pointing out the distinction between jockeys' earnings and ex-gratia payments. The stewards emphasised that any payments made by owners to jockeys, above those laid down in the rules of racing, were a matter for the individuals concerned. They will be meeting officials of the Inland Revenue and Customs and Excise to confirm this procedure.

All jockeys' earnings under the rules of racing, which include riding fees, prize money percentages and retainers, are monitored by racing's administrators, Weatherbys, and the details sent to the Inland Revenue.

A spokesman for the Jockey Club said: "We maintain a security force to investigate possible breaches of the rules, and anyone aware of irregularities in the registration of retainers or jockeys betting should present the evidence to the director of security at Portman Square."

In 1985, Henry Cecil was fined £2,000 by the disciplinary committee of the Jockey Club for failing to register all the details of payments by owners to Piggott between 1981 and 1984. One of the owners alleged to have made extra payments was Lord Howard de Walden, but he has denied he made cash payments to jockeys. Lord Howard was Senior Steward in 1957, 1964 and 1976.

Gooch points the way to the cloudless oasis

From John Woodcock, Cricket Correspondent, Jaipur

England gained a wonderfully welcome victory here yesterday and with it a place in the semi-finals of the World Cup so long as they beat Sri Lanka in Poonza on Friday. In lovely weather and against some extraordinarily improvident West Indian bowling, they made 269 for five before dismissing West Indies for 235.

It was an exciting match which West Indies had every chance of winning even until half an hour or so from the end. Had they made anything like proper use of the pitch in the first hour they could, to all intents and purposes, have won it then. But a staunch and skilful innings from Gooch, which won him the Man of the Match award, helped England through this difficult period, and West Indies themselves did much to ease the pressure when their bowlers seemed as much affected by the occasion as ever a batsman was.

Even then West Indies were well up with the asking rate for the first 30 overs of their innings. As he has a habit of doing, except against Embury, Richardson took to the English bowling. He also had a lot of luck in the number of

times he played and missed, the ball moving occasionally off the seam all day. While Richardson and Richards were adding 82 in 17 overs for the third wicket, England knew they would need all their tenacity to hang on.

That they did so was to everyone's credit, particularly DeFreitas, who bowled splendidly. Hemmings, who removed Richardson and then ran out Harper, Embury, who was his usual reliable self, Foster and Small, who recovered from their earlier looseness, in their later spells, and Gattling for the way he handled his attack. The fielding, too, was better than in their previous matches.

It was with much anxiety that England went in to bat. There was enough grass on the pitch and lingering dew for both captains to be keen to bowl first. England could be profoundly grateful for the fact that Marshall, Garner and Holding were elsewhere and for that matter that Gray was not playing. As he invariably is when confronted by the West Indians, Robinson was ill at ease on and outside the off stump. Having been dropped at the wicket in the

third over, he had his off stump snapped in two by Patterson in the ninth.

But by then the wickets were starting to mount up and within the hour Richards must have felt like calling his side together and giving them a good talking to. Briefly, after they had come in, Richards

as many as they did. Lamb, Embury and DeFreitas all contributed, the last two with startling improvisations after Gooch had been caught at deep mid-wicket off the 135th ball he faced.

There was not a cloud to be seen and the barren hills that ring the Pink City made the

ground look like an oasis. And so the battle unfolded. Lucky to get rid of Haynes, caught at square leg off a long hop in the fifth over, England were then treated to a glimpse of Simmons's presence.

And when he was bowled by Embury, playing defensively forward, Richards came in and made 51 in 51 balls, one pull of his off Embury being such a blow that it would have cleared the grandstand at Lord's even from a pitch well over towards the Tavern. He had just swept his two other sixes off successive balls from Hemmings when Hemmings bowled him. Richards was making room for an off-side force.

While Logie was scampering 22 in company with Richardson, West Indies were still well in it, as they were until Hooper and Dujon and Harper came and went in quick succession. Sixty-five from the last 10 overs with six wickets left and Richardson still there represented a shade of odds in West Indies' favour. Then Downton caught Hooper very well and Dujon, too, and Hemmings, who did England proud throughout, ran out the dangerous Harper from backward cover. Harper, who had played the stroke, was making for the bowler's end.

One never knows quite what to expect from a West Indian with a bat in his hand and it was only when Benjamin and Patterson still needed 35 from the last two overs that England could feel sure the job was done.

In three overs Hooper conceded 27 runs. At the other end Athey swept Harper for two fours. Repeating the stroke, he was caught on the long-leg boundary. But Gattling was soon feeding eagerly on all the good things on offer. After 30 overs England were 150 for two.

Then, suddenly, the momentum fell away, the two captains having much to do with it, and Gattling by getting out when he did and Richards for showing his side that what matters most in bowling in this competition are length and direction. In the first 10 overs of their last 20 England scored only 35 runs.

As happened against Pakistan last week, Gattling was out sweeping. It may have been a little more of a pull this time than a sweep but the place to be hitting the ball was straight and not to mid-wicket. Having lost Gattling, with whom he had added 64 in half an hour, Gooch had to be more careful than he might otherwise have been, and in the end England needed 83 from their last 10 overs to give



In the pink in the Pink City: Hemmings about to hug Downton for catching Richardson

SCOREBOARD FROM JAIPUR

West Indies won toss

ENGLAND		Batsmen	Runs	Wickets	Extras
G A Gooch	c Harper b Patterson	137	15	7	175
R V Richardson	b Patterson	38	1	3	19
C W J Athey	c Patterson b Harper	44	1	3	91
M W Gatting	lbw b Richards	24	1	3	28
A J Lamb	c Richardson b Patterson	24	1	3	74
J E Embury	not out	24	1	3	28
P A J DeFreitas	not out	18	1	3	8
Extras	(b 5, lb 10, w 22, nb 1)	38			
Total	(5 wickets, 50 overs)	288			

1P R Downton, N A Foster, E E Hemmings and G C Small did not bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-35, 2-90, 3-154, 4-209, 5-250.

WEST INDIES		Batsmen	Runs	Wickets	Extras
D L Haynes	c Athey b DeFreitas	15	2	2	14
P V Simmons	b Embury	29	1	2	38
R B Richardson	c Downton b Small	150	1	2	130
T V A Richards	b Hemmings	51	3	4	82
A L Logie	c Hemmings b Embury	22	1	3	28
C L Hooper	c Downton b DeFreitas	8	1	3	10
JP J Dujon	c Downton b Foster	1	1	3	4
R A Harper	run out (Hemmings)	3	1	3	5
W K M Benjamin	c Foster b DeFreitas	4	1	3	16
C A Walsh	b Hemmings	4	1	3	2
B P Patterson	not out	4	1	3	10
Extras	(b 7, w 1, nb 1)	235			
Total	(48.1 overs)	235			

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-18, 2-65, 3-147, 4-182, 5-208, 6-211, 7-219, 8-221, 9-224.

BOWLING: DeFreitas 9.1-2-28-3 (nb 1); Foster 10-0-62-1 (w 1); Embury 9-0-41-2; Small 10-0-61-1; Hemmings 10-0-46-2.

Man of the Match: G A Gooch.

Umpires: M Shah (Pak) and P W Vidanaragane (Sri Lanka).

SIS over another obstacle

By John Goodbody

The Office of Fair Trading (OFT) yesterday confirmed that the revised agreement between the bookmakers and Satellite Information Services (SIS), which beams horse-racing into Britain's betting shops, is not to be referred to the Restrictive Practices Court.

But a spokeswoman for the OFT said that the investigation on the more general question of betting on horse and greyhound racing, and whether it should be referred to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission, was still going on.

Last year the Big Four bookmakers decided among themselves to subscribe only to SIS, in which they have 45 per cent of the equity. But they recently entered into a revised agreement with the Racecourse Association after comments from the OFT.

The OFT has ruled that Ladbrokes, Coral, William Hill and Mecca and also the Tote, which has five per cent of the shares, are free to accept television coverage from any company, including SIS, whose chief executive, John Bead, said: "It is nice to have it all out in the open. The road is now clear for us to place the remaining 40 per cent in the company."

International talent on show

By Keith Macklin

The first nine-a-side competition will be staged at Wigan's Central Park tomorrow night and there will be 20 internationals on view. Eight sides are taking part, six from England, Castleford, Halifax, Hull KR, St Helens, Warrington, Wigan, and the touring sides Papua New Guinea and Auckland.

In addition to the many Great Britain internationals, there are Mark Elia, Joe Ropati and Ross Taylor, and the Australian full back, Graham Eadie.

Aberavon warning

Aberavon will receive a warning about their future behaviour from the Welsh Rugby Union this week after having three players sent off within five days last week, one against Penarth and two against Bridgend on Saturday.

The WRU's current disciplinary code provides for a warning letter; in such circumstances, a fourth dismissal would earn the club a £50 fine and any subsequent breach within the 1987-8 season would bring the possibility of suspension of playing activities. Such a suspension has been imposed on several junior Welsh clubs.

Ball and Deacon make up

By Dennis Signy

An hour-long meeting at the Hampshire home of John Deacon, the Portsmouth chairman, and his manager, Alan Ball, ended with peace restored at Fratton Park.

Ball, who had publicly announced after Saturday's 2-1 defeat at Queen's Park Rangers that the game could be his last as Portsmouth's manager, commented: "I took exception to something he said. Now it is buried forever."

Deacon confirmed: "It is all settled and finished." "There are other things which happen in football, personal things, apart from kicking a ball. I would not disclose what someone said to me in confidence."

Neither Ball, who recently accepted a three-year contract, nor his chairman would elaborate further on the remark that had caused the upset. Ball stressing that it was nothing to do with interference in his job or the proposed resale last week of Ian Baird, Portsmouth's record signing, at £285,000, to Leeds United.

Ball shrugged aside the rumour that his own announcement had caused by saying that he was carrying on with his role of running the team and the chairman was getting on with running the club.

What the altercation did reveal, though, was Deacon's displeasure at an expenditure of £750,000 on new players this season, and a current playing staff, including youngsters, of 41 - a high total by most standards.

He made it clear that five contenders for the forwards' shirts - Baird, Connor, Quinn, Mariner and Kerr - was one too many. Connor, a £200,000 acquisition from Brighton and Hove Albion in the summer, is now available after injury, and the directors were looking to a reduction in numbers in that area.

Moorhouse in

Adrian Moorhouse, of Leeds, not surprisingly has been selected for Britain's team to contest the European Cup in Monaco on December 12/13.

Wark's decision is agony for Bassett

By Ian Stafford

Dave Bassett's problems were exacerbated yesterday when John Wark, almost on the verge of signing at the weekend, turned down the chance to join Watford after talking to his wife.

The Liverpool midfielder, aged 33, met the Watford manager, Bassett last Friday, having also spoken to Manchester City, Leicester City and Ipswich Town, his previous club. With his chances of a first team recall at Anfield all the more remote following the arrival of Ray Houghton, Wark had indicated that he was interested in moving to Vicarage Road.

But after discussing the situation with his wife, the Scottish international decided that the property price gap would prove too costly to warrant the move.

"It is a big disappointment because I was optimistic that he would sign," Bassett admitted. "But that is the way our luck has been recently," he added, two days after seeing his side slump to penultimate position in the first division after losing for the seventh time in eleven games this season, this time at Everton.

"Wark would have been a really useful acquisition and would have filled one part of the jigsaw we still need. He is a very experienced player, who takes up good positions, and regularly scores from midfield." Since Watford have scored only five goals and have been discouraged by the contribution of their £325,000 pre-season signing from Reading, Trevor Senior, a prolific scorer at his former club, Wark's decision will be particularly hard to bear.

"There have been times recently when I have been despondent about the present situation," Bassett admitted, "but I must pick myself up. These things happen, and before things get better they normally get a little worse. Every new manager has to face problems, but if I did not believe the tide will turn I would pack it all in."

Scarborough awarded assistance by Trust

Scarborough, whose first game in the Football League was marred by crowd trouble, have been offered £15,000 by the Football Trust to assist with the cost of the installation of closed circuit television cameras.

The Trust has also awarded Oldham £20,000 for new changing accommodation to be used by the general public, and Southport £12,750 to carry out safety work at their Northern Premier League ground.

School game set stiff test

By Ivo Tennant

At a time of widespread enthusiasm for cricket among all age groups in Britain the game in the schools is beset with problems. Many schools lack facilities and state and independent schools are experiencing a further difficulty: fitting all their traditional fixtures into the summer term.

The introduction of GCSE examinations and earlier A level sittings are the cause of the problems, according to the headmaster of a leading state school, Dick Proctor, of Oxford School, said that the state and independent sectors would be affected by an increasing number of exams and changing term dates.

"In 1985 all exams will be set over a longer period than ever before," he said. "Local authorities have not thought out the effect of extracurricular activities at all through being too often concerned with political issues. GCSE exams are going to heighten tensions."

The changes in exam times are likely to result in a three-week gap between the ending of the summer term in independent and state schools. This would affect the MCC Schools Festival, held in Oxford in the middle of July and incorporating the 44 best cricketers in state and independent schools. The latter will have broken up 10 days before the festival; the state sector will still be embroiled in school activities.

The warden of another Oxford school, the independently run St Edwards, was so concerned at what he termed "an impending crisis" over the future of schools cricket that he called a meeting of 28 cricket masters from leading public schools earlier this month. John Phillips said that the traditional fixture list could not be continued because the Oxford and Cambridge board which holds the sitting of A levels a week earlier than hitherto. "A levels have to be given proper priority," he said.

The masters determined to hold their fixtures at the end of term and at the beginning of the summer holidays so that fewer games would be played in midweek. Fixtures on Saturdays were acceptable to only a dozen of the masters present. In the 1980s academic qualifications are of greater importance than the whims of colours.

The warden of Radley, Dennis Silk, was in favour of introducing limited overs cricket. In response to the comments by one master that a draw was once a good result at schoolboy level, he said that too many schools were more worried about losing than about winning. Backing for 55 overs a side matches came from Stuart Turner, the former Essex cricketer and one of its finest exponents. He is now in charge of the game at Forest School.

The representative from Eton said that if the fixture list had to be cut it would mean his school losing a long-established match.



Silk: worries over losing

liked match such as their annual one against the Butterflies, that most famous of clubs. He also said that if schools did not have matches on Saturdays it would enable boys to play for their county schoolboy sides. Few masters were in support of a league table being introduced for schools cricket.

Many of the masters present last week and, no doubt, their old boys would like to see schools cricket return to what they regard as its rightful place in society: given prominence at Lord's at the end of term. It would be one way of countering exam deadlines. Thirty years ago what amounted to a schools festival took place at headquarters; now but two schools play there, Eton and Harrow. Their match is the oldest fixture at Lord's, which does much to secure its continuity.

Considering the amount of cricket played at Lord's, this is in all probability a fanciful wish. Nevertheless, it is an indication of the breadth of thinking to help overcome this, the latest little local difficulty in schools' cricket. At the end of the meeting masters were busy reorganizing their traditional fixture lists.